Willcox: The First 100 Years

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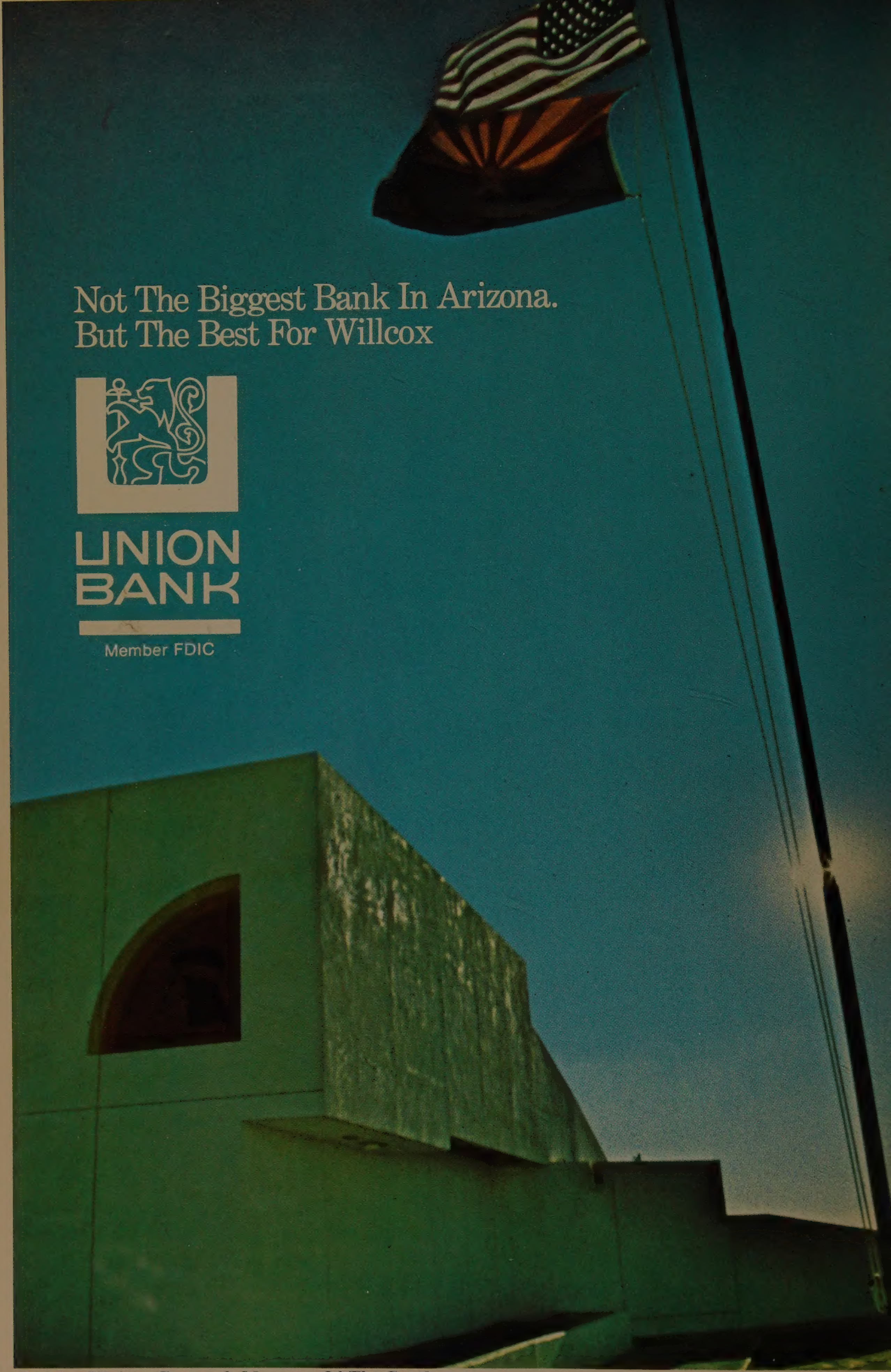
Published by The Arizona Range News, Willcox, Arizona



Cochise Visitor Center & Museum Of The Southwest

Willcox:
The First 100 Years

Published By
The Arizona Range News
Willcox, Arizona
(First Edition)

(Front Cover) Two Persons ride horseback in the Southwest desert foothills. (Horizon Corporation)

(Below) Heavy rains flood Willcox in 1925.(Harry Parks Collection)

(Lower Right) Miners take a break at the Mascot Mine during its heyday a half-century ago. (Harry Parks Collection)

From The Editors

Putting together a book of this nature has taken an incredible amount of time and work on the part of many people.

We believe the photos, from a variety of contributors, are among the best historical pictures available in the area. And we'd like to give credit where it's due. Without the help of the following photo contributors, this book would not have been possible: The City of Willcox and the Harry Parks Collection; Ray Wien, Rinki Hughes, Dorothy Uhl Ellis, Minnie Nordhus and the Ft. Bowie National Historic Site.

The research of Grace McCool, who has long studied the history of this area, also provided a valuable source of information for this book, as did the Sulphur Springs Valley Historical Association.

Our sincere appreciation to all of these individuals and a great many others who helped us on this book.

--Laura Barry &
Bill Roberts

Willcox: The First 100 Years

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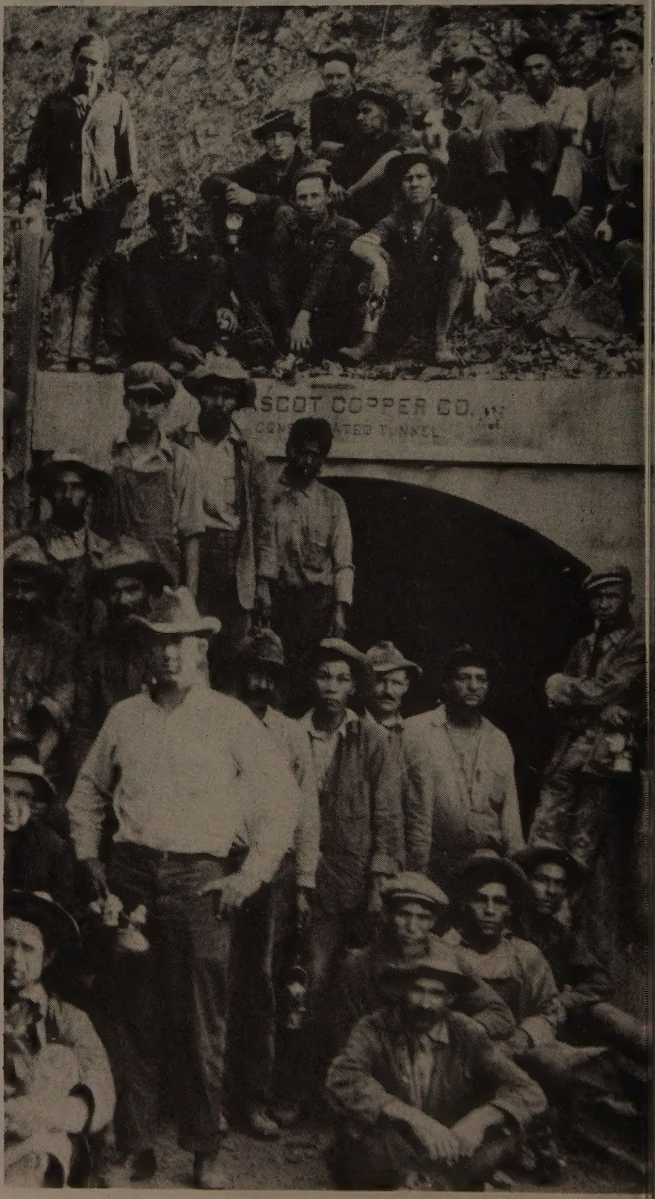
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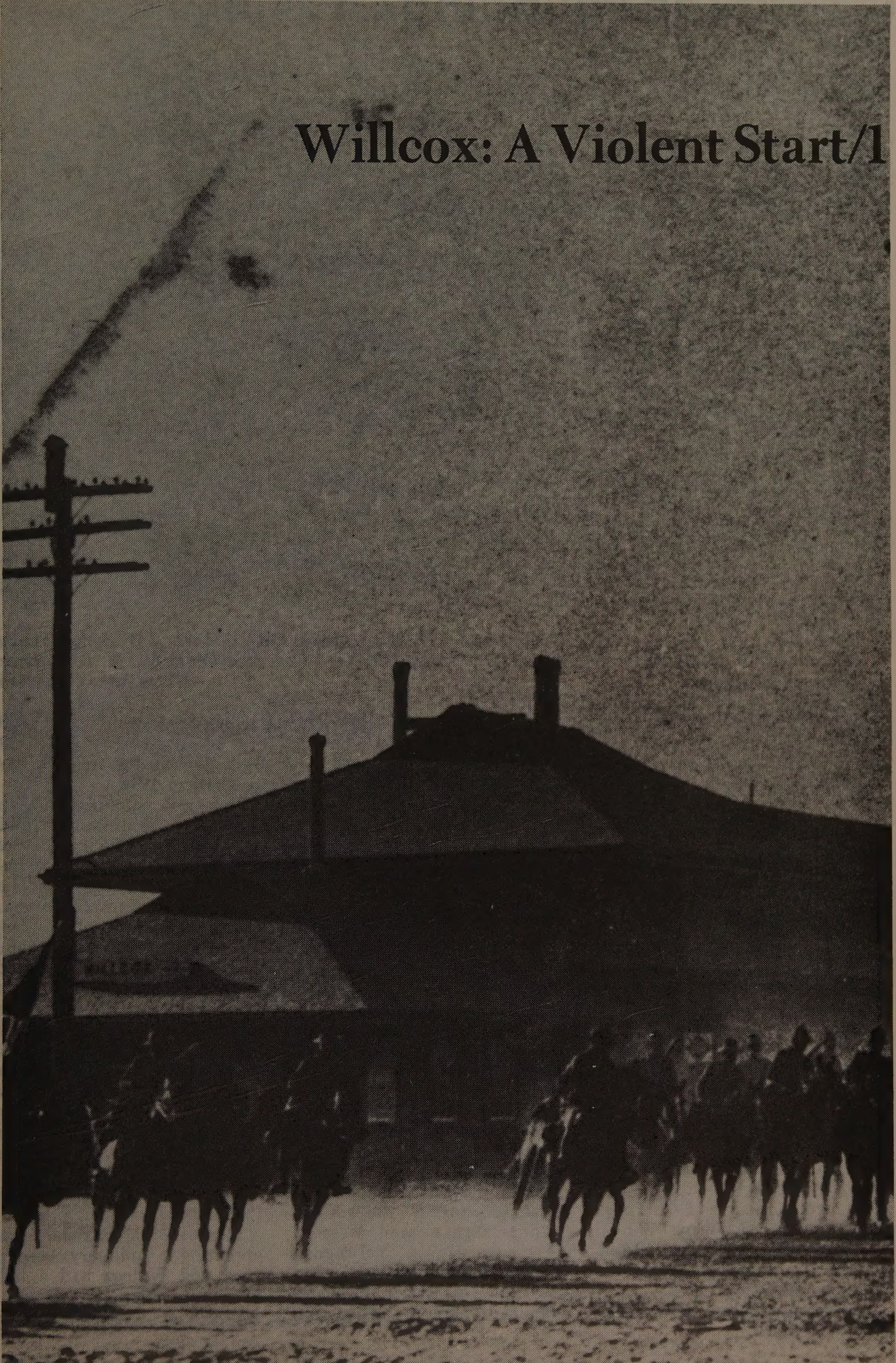
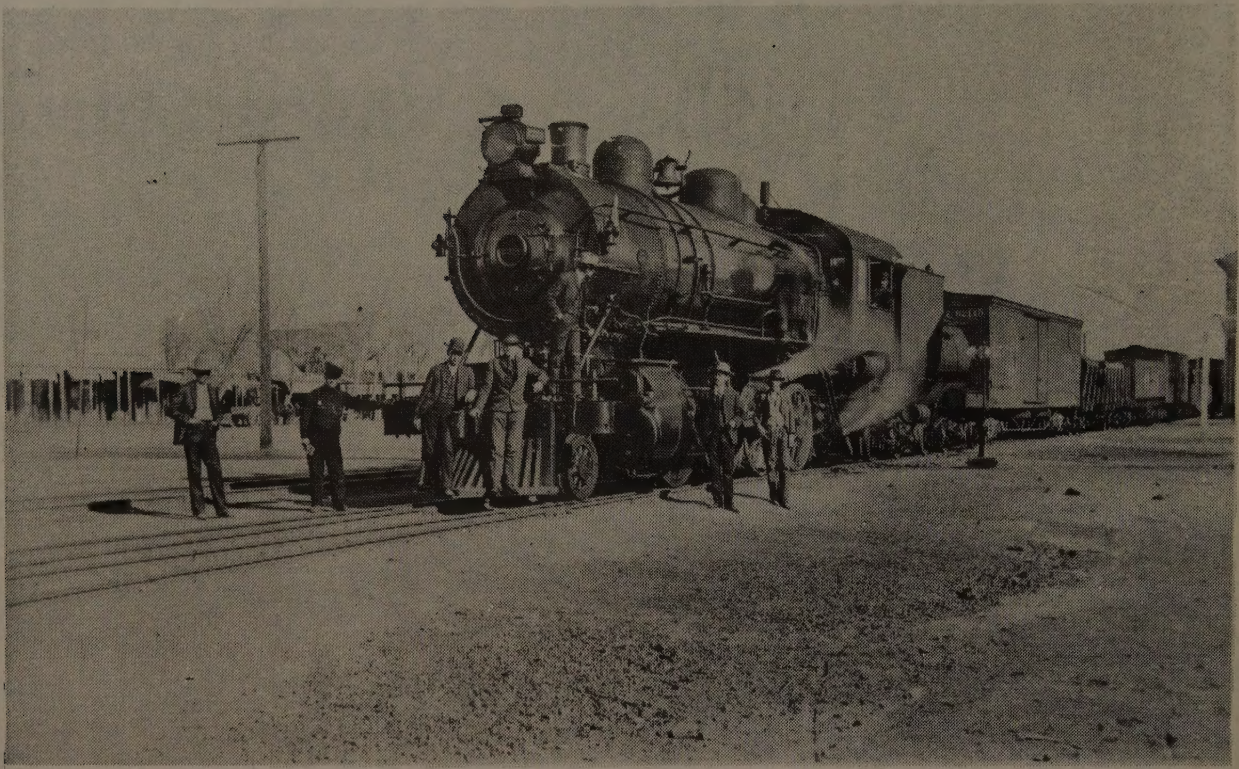
Willcox: A Violent Start/1



The Founding Of Willcox



Pictured above is a Southern Pacific engine at the Willcox Depot in 1903. [l-r] are: J.W. Smith; Yancy; Operator; W.B. Kirkland; Dr. J.C. Wilson [Dr. Wilson's son is now our local dentist]; J.M. Lean, ticket agent; and Iley Allen. *--Harry Parks Collection.*

Willcox was founded August 26, 1880 when the Southern Pacific railroad reached the townsite. As the end-of rails it became an important freighting center. The original spelling was Wilcox. The town was near the stage-coach station at Croton Springs, built by Thomas Steele however the railroad called the new town Mahley, honoring James H. Mahley, on whose homestead it was located.

When the town's first child was born to the Anthony Powers, General Orlando Wilcox, who was in command of the Department of Arizona for the Army, presented the baby boy with a silver mug with his own initials on it. The flattered parents named the baby Wilcox Powers and the townsmen changed the name of their new settlement to Wilcox. Wilcox Powers died of a "sudden fever" in Tombstone fourteen years later.

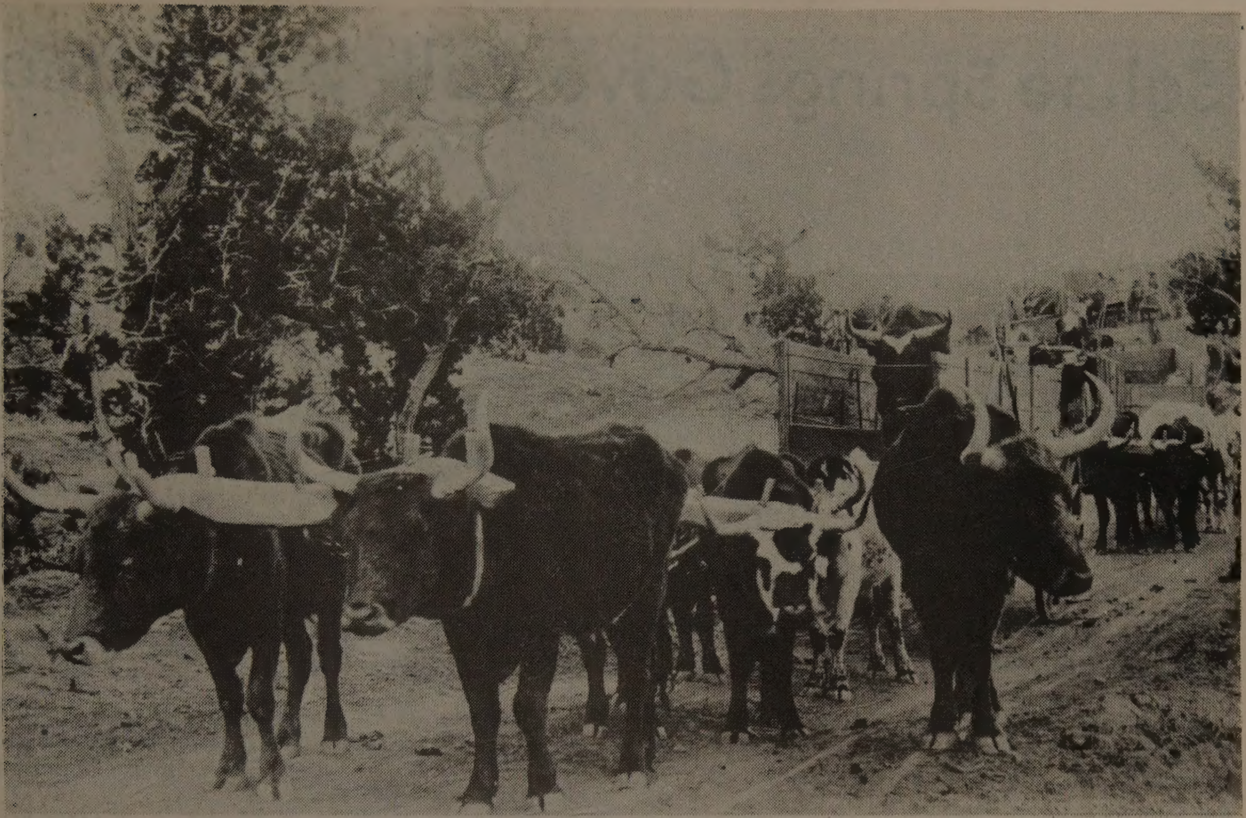
Commissioners William J. Osborn, William S. Oury and Andrew Conley filed the townsite on October 1, 1881. It was intelligently planned. Two blocks were set aside for a public square, one for a school and four lots for Methodist, Baptist, Catholic and Presbyterian churches. Col. Henry C. Hooker built an adobe church to be used by all faiths and the Methodists built their own church in 1886. A post office was opened at once and E.K. Crews was the first postmaster.

By 1882 Willcox had a population of 324 and 82 persons voted in Cochise County's first election Oct. 25, 1882. On October 8, 1881 "In accordance with the prayer and petititon of the people of Willcox and the recommendation of the county school superintendent" the county supervisors named Wilcox, School district No. 13, Dragoon Summitt was No. 12 and Teviston No. 14. In 1885, 29 pupils attended the school and a high school was in use in 1908 with seven students. The first graduate was Florence Dickey Hubbard in 1912.

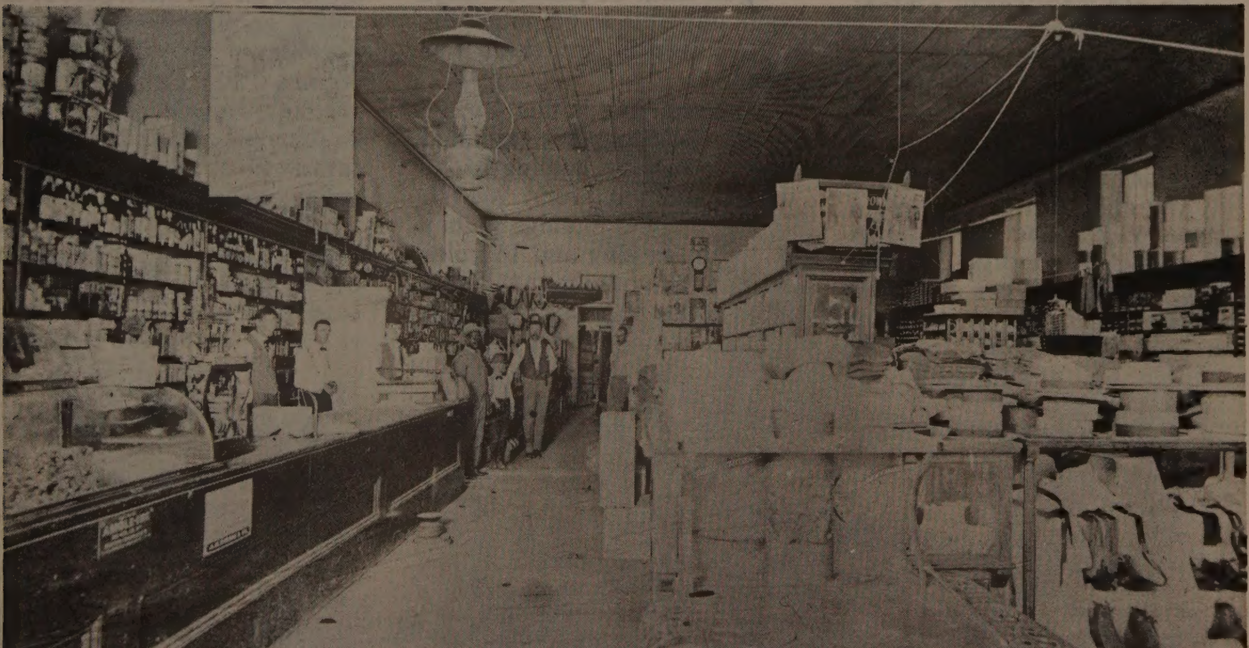
The first businessmen in town were John Norton and M.W. Stewart, who had a large stock of good in their mercantile and also operated a stageline to Camp Thomas, Fort Grant and Globe, using six-horse coaches. In 1889 Lieberman and Co. hauled freight to Globe and were assessed by the tax-collector on 45 wagons and 50 teams, with from 10 to 20 mules in each team which pulled a hitch of two to four wagons. The round trip took from 20 to 30 days. There were also many independent teamsters on this route. M.W. Stewart soon sold his holdings to the Norton-Morgan Commercial Company.

Mrs. W. C. Ragsdale was operating a millinery shop in 1889 and Willcox had a lady barber in 1892.

--by Grace McCool

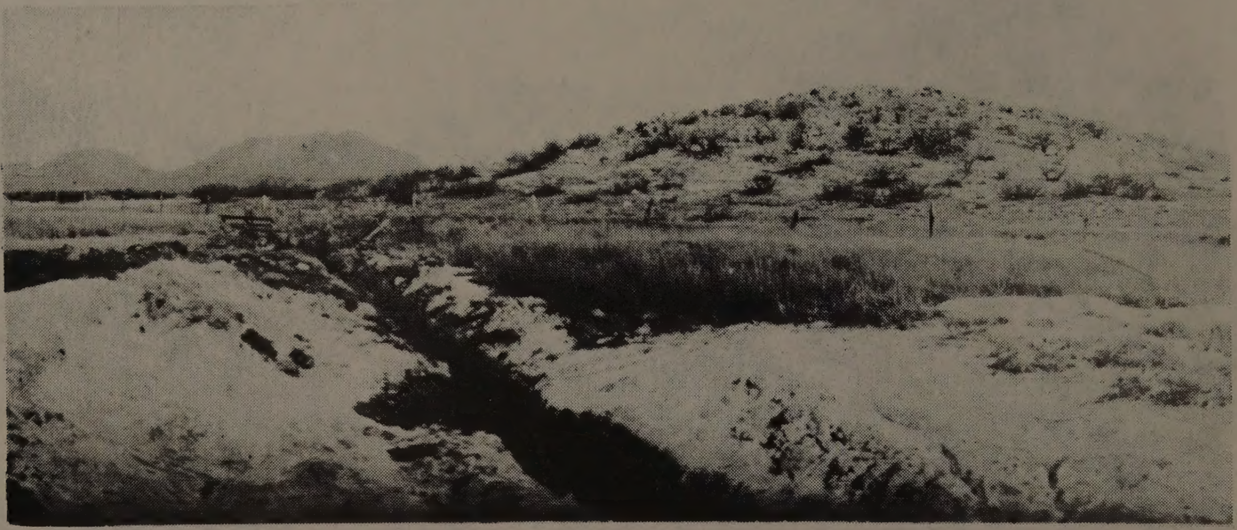


As Willcox grew, it became an important freighting center for eastern Arizona. Teams of oxen or mules were usually employed in this business. Pictured above are two bull teams used in the transportation of supplies from Willcox to Globe. *--Harry Parks Collection.*



John H. Norton's General Mercantile, as it appeared in 1899. The store was first begun at Bonita in 1879 and later moved to Willcox on Railroad Avenue. Its direct successor, the Willcox Commercial Company, is doing business on the same site today. *--Harry Parks Collection.*

Saline Springs Gave Valley Its Name



The Willcox valley was first called by the Spanish the "Valle de las Playas." The name which finally stayed with the valley, however, was the Sulphur Springs Valley. This name was derived from the sulphur springs pictured above, which are now dry. *--Harry Parks Collection.*

The Spaniards called it "Valle de las Playas" because of the huge playa or dry lake near Willcox. We call it Sulphur Springs Valley.

An old manuscript states: "Toward the middle of the plain there is a series of pools or springs with a large supply of water, slightly saline, sulphurous and choked with decaying vegetable matter."

The ancient dry lake bed is near Willcox and can be seen from both highways 666 and Interstate 10. When the weather is right, this dry ancient lake-bed appears to be a beautiful, water-filled lake, rimmed with huge trees that are reflected in the fake water. Fooled by this mirage, many a wagon train of pioneer days went out of its way to reach the water, only to find there was none.

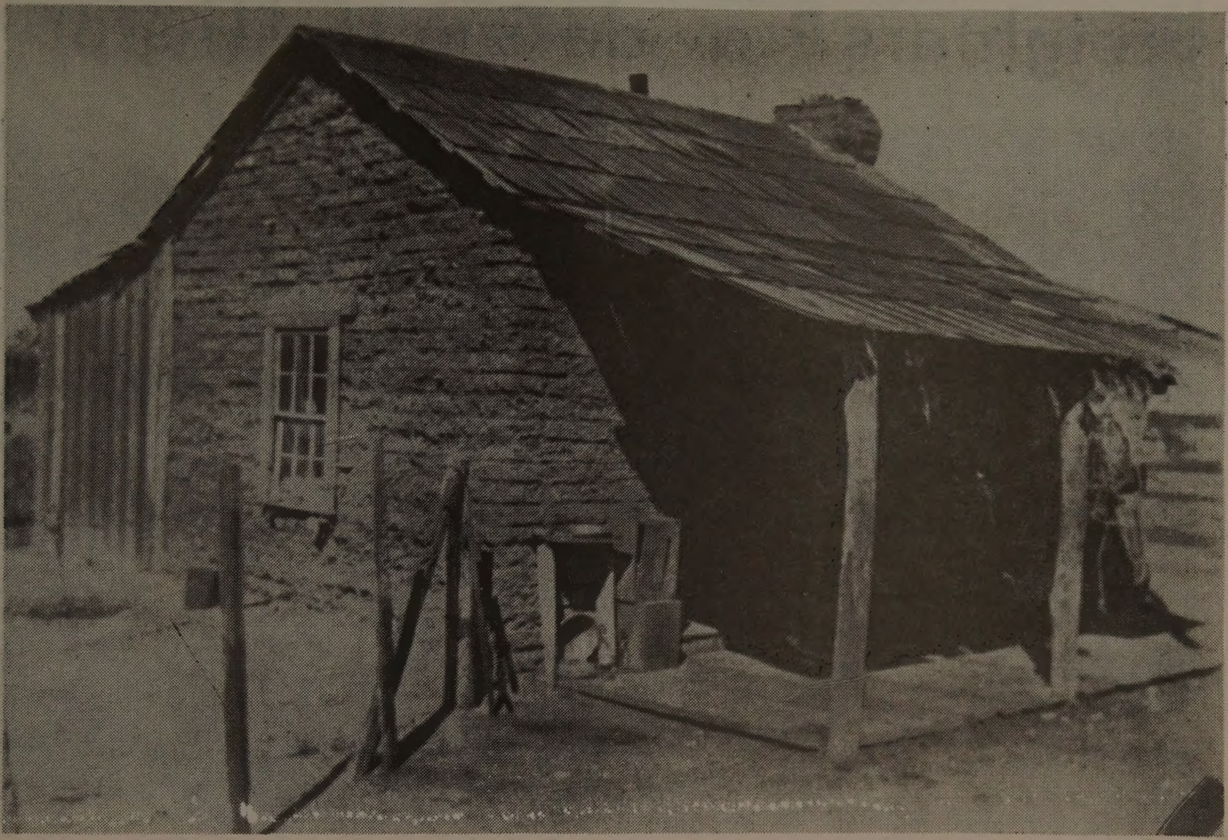
So convincing is this mirage that a Navy seaplane skimmed down to an awful landing on the dry lake during World War II.

The Sulphur Springs Valley is 100 miles long and 15 miles wide. It extends from the Gila River to the spurs of the Sierra Madre mountains in Sonora. Its altitude varies from 4,400 feet to 3,000 feet.

As early as 1849, cattle were driven over the route that crosses the northern part of the valley enroute to Calif. After Fort Bowie was established at Apache Pass, Col. Henry Clay Hooker, John A. Rockfellow, Brannick Riggs and the Munk family grazed cattle in the valley. Stewart Edward White wrote a best seller, Arizona Nights, based on the experiences of these early day cattlemen.

--by Grace McCool

View of Willcox, looking east down Maley, shows the flat Sulphur Springs Valley. The Dos Cabezas Mountains can be seen in the distance to the south. The dry lake, or playa, has often fooled travelers with its summer mirages. *--Harry Parks Collection.*



Pioneer residences were not built for looks as much as for utility. The cabin shown above is near the Winchesters. Adobe brick was a mainstay in an area where wood was scarce. The adobe provided excellent insulation from both heat and cold. *--Harry Parks Collection.*

In this photo captioned "Kitchen--Modern or Otherwise" one gets a glimpse of the interior of a pioneer dwelling. The bed by the cookstove attests to the fact that eating and sleeping often took place in the same room. *--Harry Parks Collection.*

Freighters Provide Colorful History

The railroad depot became the headquarters for the booming freighting business of early Willcox. Shown here are wagons of wool outside the depot waiting to be hauled by mule team to the mines or forts of eastern Arizona. *--Harry Parks Collection.*

The most newsworthy people in Willcox were the freighters who hauled machinery, weighing thousands of pounds, to the mines in Globe, and goods to the mining camps at Pearce, Russellville and Dos Cabezas, as well as military supplies to Fort Grant, Camp Thomas and Fort Bowie.

The road from Willcox to Globe was called the "Great Highway of Danger." Part of the way it crossed the San Carlos Apache reservation. All of the way there was the danger of Apache attack. Samaniego's great freight train, powered by bull teams, was wiped out on the top of Cedar Springs Hill and the graves of the teamsters may be seen there.

Bullwhackers, as freighters who drove ox-teams were called, must have been men of great courage. Instead of riding in a saddle like the driver of a mule team, they trudged along on foot keeping their oxen moving by the judicious use of an ox-goad. There was no escape for them in a fight, they just had to defend themselves if they could.

The prudent teamsters waited at the railroad until at least a score of wagons were loaded and ready to roll and then pulled out relatively safe through united vigilance.

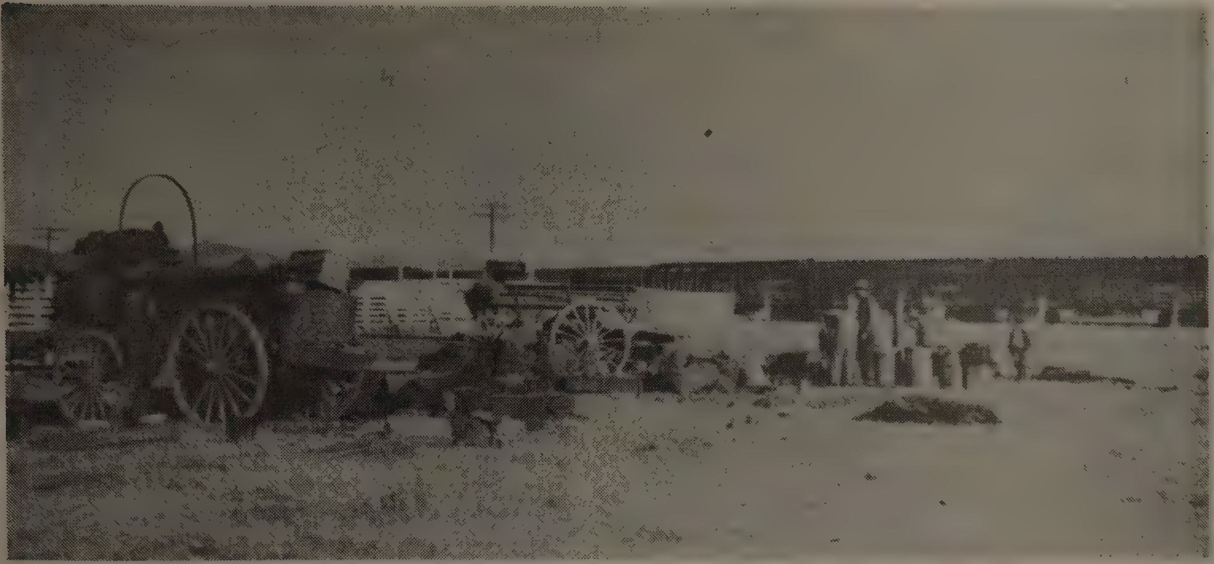
Sometimes a freighter eager to make more money by making quicker trips, or wishing to drive ahead of the cloud dust that always plagued a large convoy, pushed along by himself. Often the train would come to the embers of what had been wagons and their contents; nearby would be the body of the tortured and murdered teamster. Some of these are buried in Willcox's old cemetery.

Typical, perhaps, of Willcox's independent freighters, was Stephen Evans. He had been stage station tender at Riverside on the San Pedro before he bought a freight outfit including six mules and started hauling to the mines in Globe. He was called "Old Man Evans." Wash Lathrop had a shabby saloon in Willcox, two hangers-on at his place were Case and McIntyre.

Old Man Evans who was something of a loner, had invested all his savings in his freight outfit and had no money to spend in town so he camped on the prairie nearby while waiting for his freight to come in. He let his mules graze, but they always came to their grain when he whistled for them.

The morning of Aug. 1, 1884, only three came. Because it had rained during the night he was able to follow their tracks and they led him to a shed belonging to Lathrop. They were not there but their tracks led to Cedar Hill on the Grant Road and from there to Cedar Spring, Cottonwood, and Ft. Thomas.

Evans got ahead of Case and he was waiting for him in Holbrook when he rode in on one of the mules and swore out a warrant for him. A hearing



The photo above shows freighters with wagons and gear near the Willcox stockyards in 1915. The stockyards can be seen in the left background. Willcox was a famous cattle shipping point and the rail cars used for shipping cattle can be seen in the right background. *--Harry Parks Collection.*

was held before the justice of the peace in Willcox, where Case implicated both Lathrop and McIntyre. The three were indicted by the Cochise County grand jury and they were tried in Tombstone at that time the county seat, before Judge Webster Street. There are more than 100 yellowed pages of the trial in his handwriting.

Lathrop and Case were found guilty, but Lathrop got a new trial and was acquitted, while Case received a suspended sentence for turning state's evidence. At the second trial, McIntyre was again acquitted, Evans served five days in the county bastille for contempt of court.

A yellowed summons reads, with greetings to Sheriff R. H. Hatch, "You are hereby commanded forthwith to attach the body of Stephen Evans and bring him before the County Court of said County of Cochise to show cause why he should not be punished for contempt of court in failing to appear as a witness." Evan's friends, Henry Johnson and Bob Brooks, were subpoenaed too. Bob Hatch failed to find them.

At the first trial, Evan's testimony is forthright. He said his mules were named Frank, Kate and Queen. One was iron-gray, one was gray and one bay. He knew their tracks and was able to pick them out among all the tracks on the road.

Case really enjoyed himself on the witness stand and matched wits with the county attorney, who was something of a dude. He said that Wash F. Lathrop told him to steal Evans' mules because he was a poor man and could not afford to waste time tracking them.

Evans got a worse grilling than Case. He was questioned at great length about the weather and other irrelevant things for the full length of his trip. Asked, "Q.--What time did you go to bed on the night of July 21? A.--I did not keep any record of it."

Case testified that he and McIntyre traded two of the mules for horses to a rancher who took them to New Mexico and sold them. Evans did not appear at the second trial, because he was searching for his mules in New Mexico and brought them back to Willcox with him. When asked why he did not shoot Lathrop for engineering the theft he replied, "I could have done it, and I suppose I should have done it, but I did not."

Evans' mules were valued at $150 each. He spent three weeks tracking them and another three weeks in court at Lathrop's first trial, and some time at the justice court hearing. He lost the money he could have earned from one or two trips to Globe and he had to hire someone to feed his mules while he was away. But Evans was a typical Willcox freighter. He loved his mules.

--by Grace McCool

Pictured on near wagon, hauling freight into the Central Camp above Dos Cabezas, is Juan Ramirez on the left. Jim Upchurch is driving the wagon in the rear. *--Ray Wien Collection.*

Due to the proximity of the railroad, stockyards, and major commercial stores, Railroad Avenue became a staging area for various enterprises. Shown here is a pack train of burros preparing to leave Willcox, perhaps for the mines.

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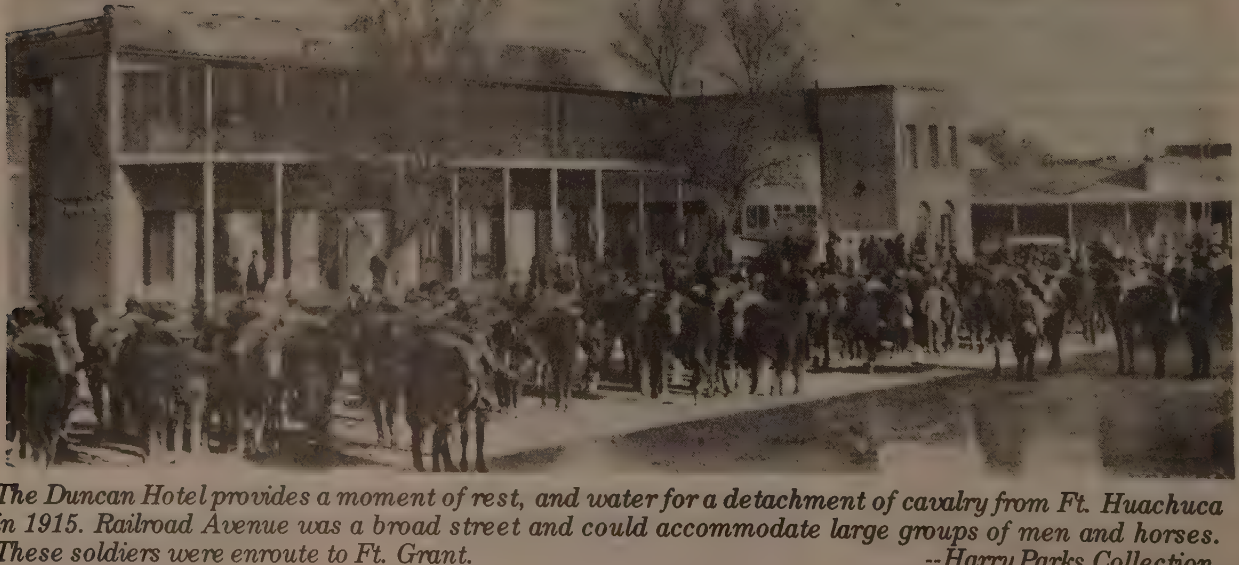


The Duncan Hotel provides a moment of rest, and water for a detachment of cavalry from Ft. Huachuca in 1915. Railroad Avenue was a broad street and could accommodate large groups of men and horses. These soldiers were enroute to Ft. Grant.
--Harry Parks Collection.

Local Soldiers Took "R&R" In Willcox

Willcox was noted for its elegant and active Officer's Club, built by the Army to house Army officers enroute to Forts Grant, Thomas and Bowie. One detail of officers tarried too long in the club one frosty night, while their mounts waited with an Army carbine in each rifle boot. A group of cowboys riding down the street lifted the saddle guns. I don't know if they were ever recovered. The old Officer's Club is presently the Schwertner house. Other old landmarks are the H.A. Morgan and Mariano Soto homes on Haskell Avenue and the Pablo Soto house on Stewart Street.

On the social side, there were Ancient Order of United Workmen, Knights of Pythias and Masonic lodges by 1903. The Willcox Brass Band was playing in 1890 and the Volunteer Fire Department was organized in 1909.

There were many saloons in every frontier town, and Willcox was no exception. Patty Cooper's, Kospar Hauser's, George Raun's the Bucket of Blood and Bill Downing's Free and Easy were among the score in town.

Soldiers, freighters and cattlemen had little social life except the easy friendliness found in saloons, along with the free lunch. Some bought all the liquor they could hold or even a little more. At least John Conlon, a soldier from Company G., Sixth Cavalry, stationed at Camp Grant did. He was getting along in years and had no relatives. The coroner's jury decided he died in Patsy Cooper's in 1882 of apoplexy, induced by acute alcoholism.

A party of troopers from W.S. Troop, Third Cavalry, came in on payday from Fort Thomas. Privates Manning, Frisby and Jacob Plonir were in the group. Frisby drank all he could hold as quickly as he could swallow it and then laid down in the back yard of the saloon, where he spent most of the day in a stupor. When it was time to saddle up for the long ride back to camp, Plonir and Manning tried to get him up on his feet, but he fought them off. "I'll get him up," Manning said and grabbed a handful of corral dust and threw it in his face.

Plonir, who was a native of Germany, testified at the inquest into Manning's death that Frisby got up and roared, "Where is my carbine?--if I don't shoot you." He grabbed his carbine from its boot on his saddle, which was on the ground, took a cartridge from his belt, loaded it and fired. Manning died instantly.

W.M. Hill, 28, was shot and killed by a soldier in a local saloon on Nov. 21, 1883. Hill had interfered when the soldier knocked a companion to the floor and swung at him a second time.

This unknown gentleman is enjoying himself in Willcox. The town boasted an officer's club for traveling soldiers as well as several saloons. *--Harry Parks Collection.*

Warren Earp Among Prominent Frontiersmen Who Died In Willcox

Baxter Warren Earp, brother of Wyatt Earp, was fatally shot by Johnny Boyette, in Brown's saloon on July 6, 1900. Earp was 45 and a native of Pella, Iowa. For some reason he thought it was a lot of fun to rough up Boyette, who was very small, every time he saw him. The cowboy decided he did not like it, and his last words to Earp were, "Don't come an inch closer." He was not arrested.

In 1884, William Rice, 26, a Tombstone bartender was killed at Willcox. He was riding the Benson train and drinking heavily. He fell off the platform when the train blew for Willcox.

--by Grace McCool

Death Of Warren Earp Investigated

Pictured above is the old cemetery at Willcox, where Warren Earp is buried. Brother of the famous frontier marshall, Wyatt Earp, Warren was shot to death in Willcox. The transcript of the Coroner's Investigation into his death follows below. *--photo by Gary Snyder.*

Transcript of Coroner's Inquest, July 6, 1900, Willcox, Arizona. Compiled from the micofilm records of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Cochise County, Arizona, December, 1972.

In the matter of the inquisition held on the body of Warren Earp at Willcox, Arizona, on the 6th day of July, 1900.

M.J. Nicholson being first duly sworn says: My name is M.J. Nicholson, I reside in Willcox, A. T., I am a physician and surgeon.

Question: Did you make an examination of the body of the deceased, if so, state the results?

Answer: Yes, I found deceased came to his death from the effect of a bullet wound. The bullet entered two inches below the collar bone and an inch and one-half left of the heart. It entered in front and ranged from left to right and obliquely downward and lodged under the skin at the back and lower angle of the shoulderblade. I cut the bullet out. The bullet passed through the heart. Deceased must have died instantly. I found no other wounds on the body. I correct my statement in this, that the bullet lodged under the skin opposite the lower border of the shoulder blade in the exillery space.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 6th day of July, 1900.

W.F.Nichols
Coroner

O.W. Hayes, being first duly sworn, says: I reside in Willcox, A. T.

Question: Were you acquainted with the deceased, if so, state his name and age and place of nativity?

Answer:His name is Warren Earp, do not know his age, should judge he was about thirty-five years of age. Do not know his place of nativity.

Question: State all you know concerning the death of the deceased?

Answer: About half past one o'clock this morning, July 6, 1900, I was in Brown's saloon in Willcox, Arizona, playing a game of cards when deceased and John Boyett came in together and came up to the table where I was playing. They had a few words but I do not remember exactly what they said, only I heard deceased say to Boyett, "You was paid one hundred and fifty dollars at one time to kill me." Boyett says to deceased "I do not want to have any trouble with you." Deceased replied "Go and get your gun. I have got mine."

John Boyett replied "I am not afraid of you." Boyett then left the saloon going out one door and deceased leaving by another door. About ten minutes afterwards Boyett came back into the saloon with two six-shooters, one in each hand, and said "Where is the son-of-a-bitch." In about four or five minutes deceased came up to the door connecting the saloon and the restaurant.

Then Boyett fired two shots at the deceased. I left the saloon and saw nothing more. When deceased came to the door I did not see that he was armed. When Boyett fired at deceased they were thirty-five or forty feet apart. Boyett was standing near the center of the saloon when he fired and when

I left.

s/ O.W. Hayes

Charles Bodamer, being first duly sworn, says: I reside in Willcox, A. T.

Question: State all you know concerning the death of the deceased?

Answer: Was in the saloon of Mr. Brown in Willcox about half past one o'clock in the morning of July 6th, 1900 when deceased and Boyett were quarrelling but did not pay much attention to it. I noticed Boyett leave by the front door. In about five minutes Boyett came back and wanted to know where the "damn son-of-a-bitch was." About that time he began shooting and I left the saloon and saw nothing more.

Two shots were fired before I left the saloon and I afterward heard three more shots. Should judge that about two seconds passed between the second and third shots and in about one minute the fifth shot.

The fourth shot followed the third shot immediately. When Boyett fired the first two shots he was standing about in the center of the saloon. Deceased was standing in the restaurant adjoining the saloon close to the looking through the door connecting the saloon with the restaurant. His right shoulder and a part of his person being concealed by the door casing. He was looking into the saloon. I saw no gun in the hand of deceased. The door mentioned was of course open during this time.

s/ C.F. Bodamer

H.Brown being duly sworn, says:

I reside in Willcox, A. T.

Question: State all you know concerning the death of deceased?

Answer: Between one and two o'clock this morning, July 6th, 1900, Boyett and deceased came into my saloon at Willcox A. T. together and commenced wrangling together near the stove. Deceased told Boyett to go get his gun. This was the first remark I noticed particularly. Boyett left the saloon by the front door and deceased left by the rear door which connects the saloon with the restaurant.

In about five minutes Boyett returned to the saloon through the front door and said: "Where is he?" He advanced to about the center of the saloon. At this time deceased was standing in the restaurant, looking through the doorway into the saloon, about one-half of his body being visible. At this instant Boyett halted about in the center of the saloon and fired two shots.

After the two shots were fired, deceased stepped onto the sidewalk through a side door leading from the restaurant to the street. Boyett then stepped backwards toward the front door and fired two shots through the floor of the saloon near the stove. Deceased then stepped into the saloon through the side door of the saloon near the rear end of the saloon and advanced toward Boyett, he, deceased, opened his coat and vest and said: "I have not got any arm. You had a good deal the best of this."

Deceased kept advancing toward Boyett and talking to him when Boyett told him to stop two or three times. The last time he told deceased not to come an inch closer. Boyett then fired the fifth shot. Deceased then fell to the floor face downward.

Deceased never spoke after he was shot. When Boyett fired the last shot they were both standing in the front of the saloon. Did not see deceased have any gun or arms on his person at any time during the trouble.

s/ Henry Brown

We the jury summoned to appear before W.F. Nichols, Justice of the Peace and Ex Officio Coroner of Cochise County, A. T., Willcox, Arizona, on the 6th day of July, 1900, to inquire into the circumstances attending the death of Warren Earp having viewed the body and listened to the testimony adduced do upon our oaths say that the name of the deceased was Warren Earp, aged about forty years, place of nativity unknown to the Jury. That he came to his death at Willcox, Cochise County, Arizona, on the 6th day of July, 1900 from the effects of a gunshot wound at the hand of one John Boyett.

Witness our hands the 6th day of July, 1900.

s/ J.K. Baker
s/ Thos. Steele
s/ Frank Steubing
s/ Archey Shaw
s/ Noah Langley

I hereby certify that the foregoing is the deposition of Witnesses examined and the verdict of the Jury in the matter of the above inquisiton.

s/ W.F. Nichols
Coroner
Cochise County, Arizona

This is NOT an official transcript. Reference should be made to the microfilm files of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Cochise County, Arizona. Compiled December, 1972.

Mule Math Problem Presented

1896--Sulphur Valley News

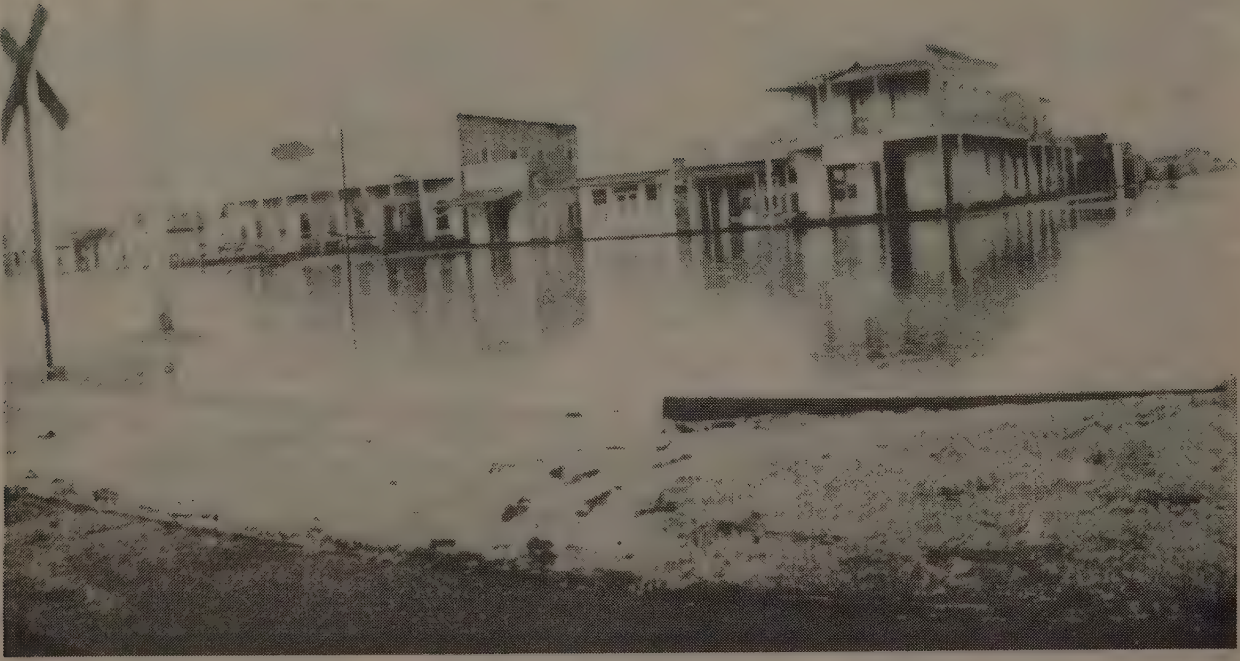
JACKASSES NEEDED

A knotty problem in math has sprung up in Willcox.

Last Saturday, Gen. Wheaton, commander of the department of Arizona, arrived here.

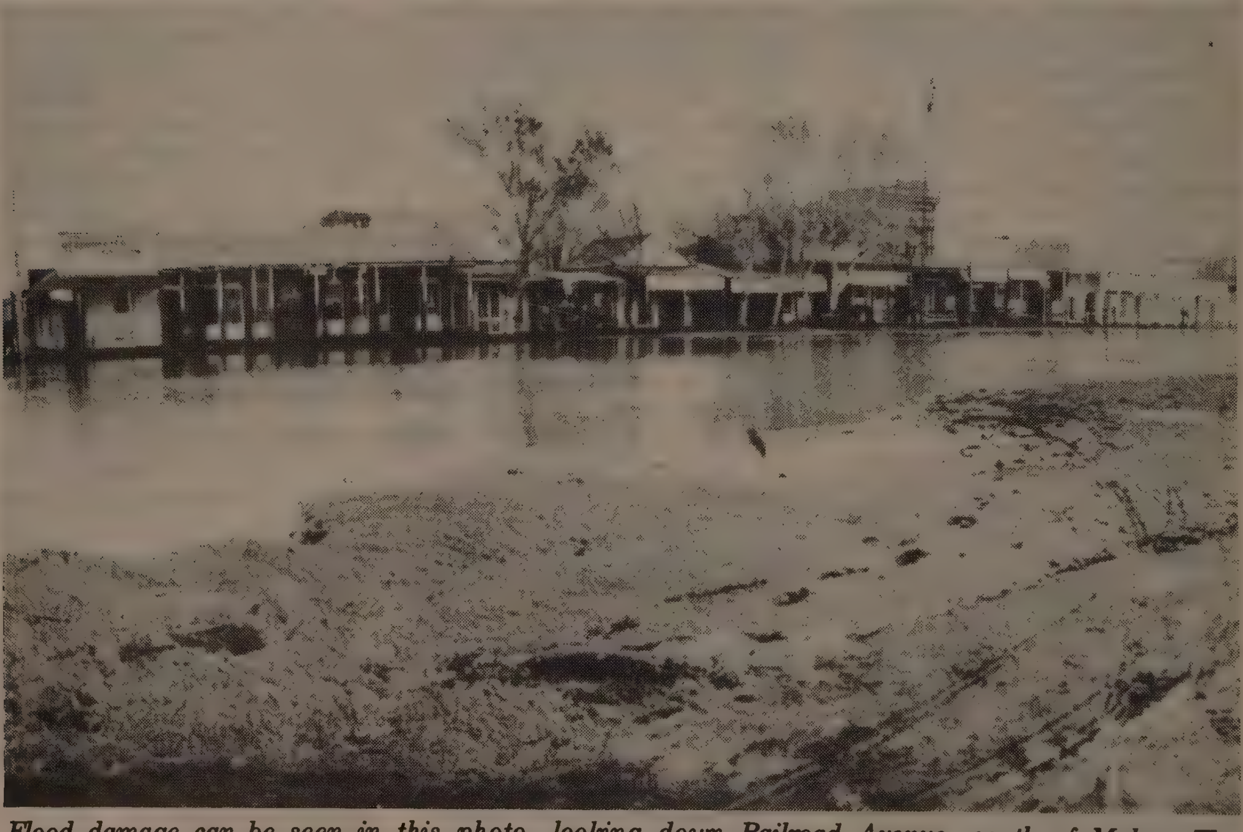
The problem is as follows: If it takes eight jackasses to move one general 20 miles, how many mules would be required to transport the entire regular army to Washington?

The general rode from Willcox to Ft. Grant in a four mule ambulance, and his luggage followed, drawn by another four mule team. Mail answers to Sulphur Valley Times, PO Box 250, Willcox.



The summer rains sometimes brought too much water to the Arizona desert. Shown here is the block of Railroad Avenue looking north from Maley after one such rain.

--Harry Parks Collection.



Flood damage can be seen in this photo, looking down Railroad Avenue, south of Maley. The Headquarters Saloon can be seen on the left. Note the large trees which provided shade for horses [and people] on Railroad Avenue.

--Harry Parks Collection.

Law Enforcers Turn Law Breakers

During the early days of Willcox, enforcing the law was a difficult task, and much blood was shed and foul-play was rampant in the tiny community.

In June, 1897, Burt Alvord was hired as constable to enforce the law in Willcox. Alvord had a reputation as being a fearless law officer, as he had maintained law and order in Pearce and was respected in that community.

On that basis Alvord went to work in Willcox. He was hired on a temporary basis, but after six weeks he was hired permanently due to the good work he had done. Unfortunately for the town, Alvord was ruthless, and also reputedly dishonest.

Alvord shot Billy King in a barroom incident after being humiliated by King and apparently some others two nights before. Alvord shot King six times in the back, but was acquitted by the judge after Alvord testified that King had drawn first.

Bill Downing was hired by Alvord as one of his deputies. Downing's past is not known, but some believed that he had been a member of the Sam Bass gang of train robbers in Texas, and had been known by the name of Jackson.

Downing also shot a man, Bill Traynor, in a saloon on Maley Street. A coroners jury decided that the killing was done in self-defense since Traynor had dropped his hands as if to reach for his gun prior to the fatal shooting.

Many shootings were the result of heavy drinking and quick tempers according to local historians. Warren Earp, who lived around Willcox for many years, was shot when he and another cowboy quarreled. This is one of the best known of the shootings around Willcox.

Several different versions of this story have been circulated, but Earp was unarmed except for a pocket knife, and supposedly dared and shot Earp. The killer was released at the preliminary hearing for lack of sufficient evidence.

William Whelan stated that the killer was known as Johnny Boyd. The Arizona Range News carried the name as "John Boyett" and stated that ill feeling had existed between the two men for several years,

Several spectacular train robberies took place around Willcox, the first of which occurred on January 30, 1895. Grant Wheeler and Joe George stopped a Southern Pacific passenger train and forced their way into the express car. The two blew up a Wells-Fargo safe and the express car was laid to waste as well.

Wheeler was trailed to Mancos Canyon, Colorado, by W.H.

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Featuring

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Breakenridge, a peace officer for the Southern Pacific. Wheeler apparently shot himself to avoid capture. George was also killed later, attempting a train robbery in California.

On September 10, 1899, another passenger train was held up near Cochise station, 12 miles southwest of Willcox. The bandits expected to find a payroll shipment of $75,000 but found an estimated $2,000 to $3,000, since the payroll had been taken off at Willcox.

When news reached Willcox Bill Downing organized a posse to pursue the robbers. Downing and his men followed the trail a short distance, then Downing told his men nothing more could be done until morning, when he would organize a bigger posse.

As soon as news of the robbery reached Tombstone, Sheriff Scott White of Tombstone organized a posse and set out for the scene of the crime. One-fourth of a mile from Willcox, they found the trail of the bandits and followed it to the neighborhood of Fort Grant, where it was lost.

Mainly through the efforts of Wells-Fargo agents evidence was found leading to the arrest of the entire gang, including Downing, Alvord and Burts. Billy Stiles made a full confession which substantiated the evidence against Alvord, as well as the others. The people of Willcox were reluctant to accept Alvord's guilt, due to his record as a peace officer, but Stiles changed many minds.

Stiles and Burts carried out the robbery, it was learned, but Alvord had supplied the powder and Downing the horses. The loot was hidden in a haystack at Downing's place and divided among the men. Downing was convicted and sentenced to a seven year term in April, 1901. Matt Burts pleaded guilty to the charge of assault with intent to commit robbery and sentenced to five years. He was pardoned by Governor, Murphy, however, in April, 1901.

Alvord, Stiles and some of the other members of the gang, escaped from the Tombstone jail in April of 1900 while awaiting trial. It took nearly three years to find Alvord, but the entire gang was recaptured. When he pleaded guilty to several of the indictments against him he was sentenced to two years at Yuma prison.

Bill Downing returned to Willcox in 1908, after his release from Territorial prison. He opened a notorious establishment called the Free and Easy Saloon, located on the corner of Curtis Avenue and Grant Street at the site of the present telephone office.

Bill Downing was shot by Arizona Ranger Billy Speed, who had a warrant sworn out for Downing's arrest after Downing had abused a woman who was an inmate of his saloon. Speed shot Downing after Downing had reached for his hip pocket. Downing may have been unarmed, but this is not a certainty, and Speed was taking no chances. This ended the days of Alvord, Downing and Stiles in the Willcox area.

--by Grace McCool

A Special Welcome

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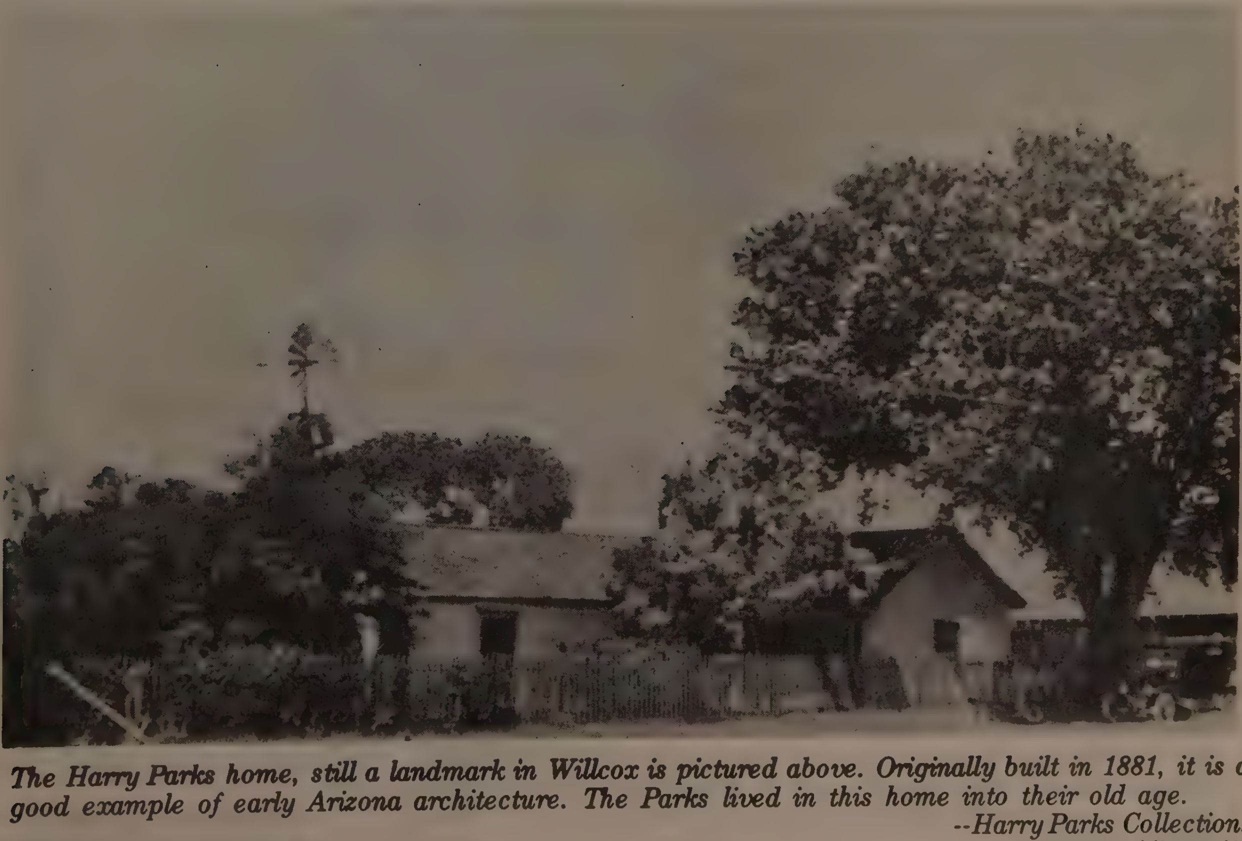
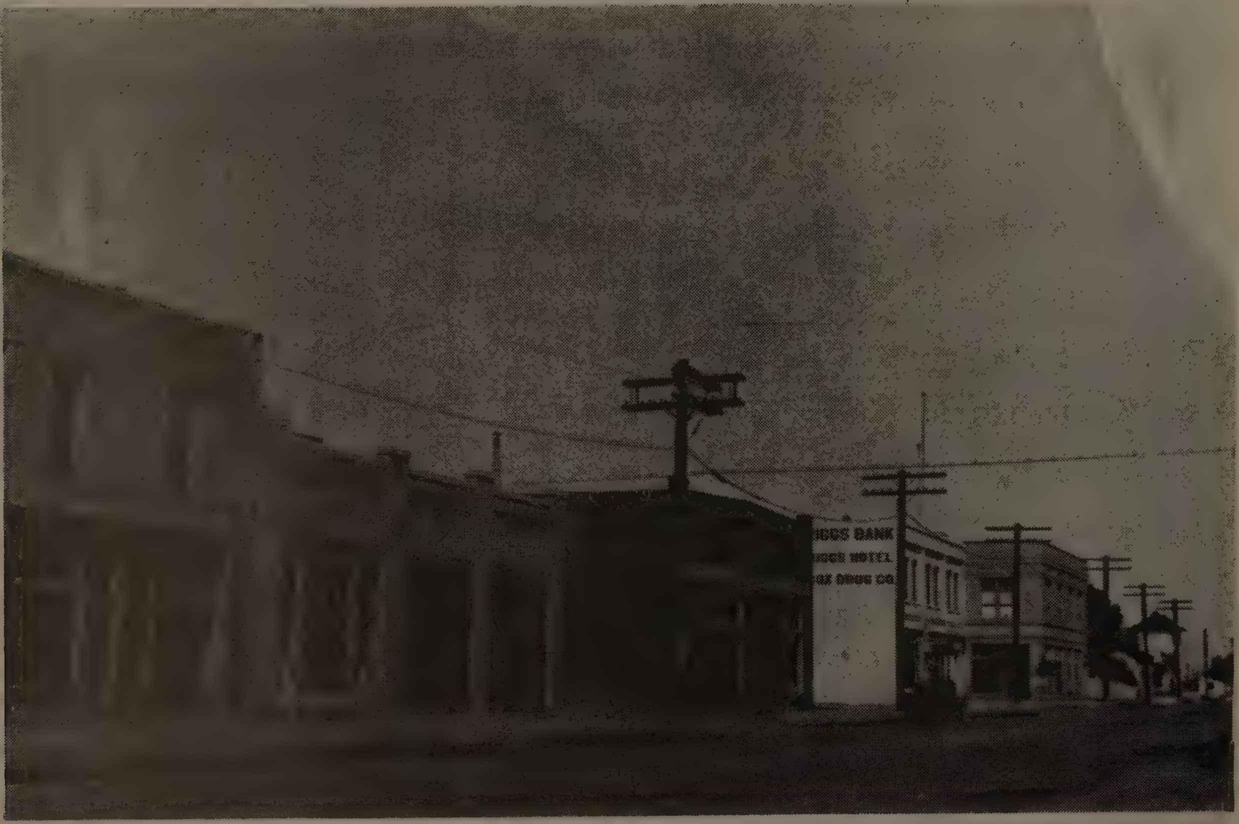
The fashion of the early twentieth century is exhibited by Laura Parks in this photo, taken in 1910 in front of the Parks home. The cottonwood tree is now gone.

--Harry Parks Collection.

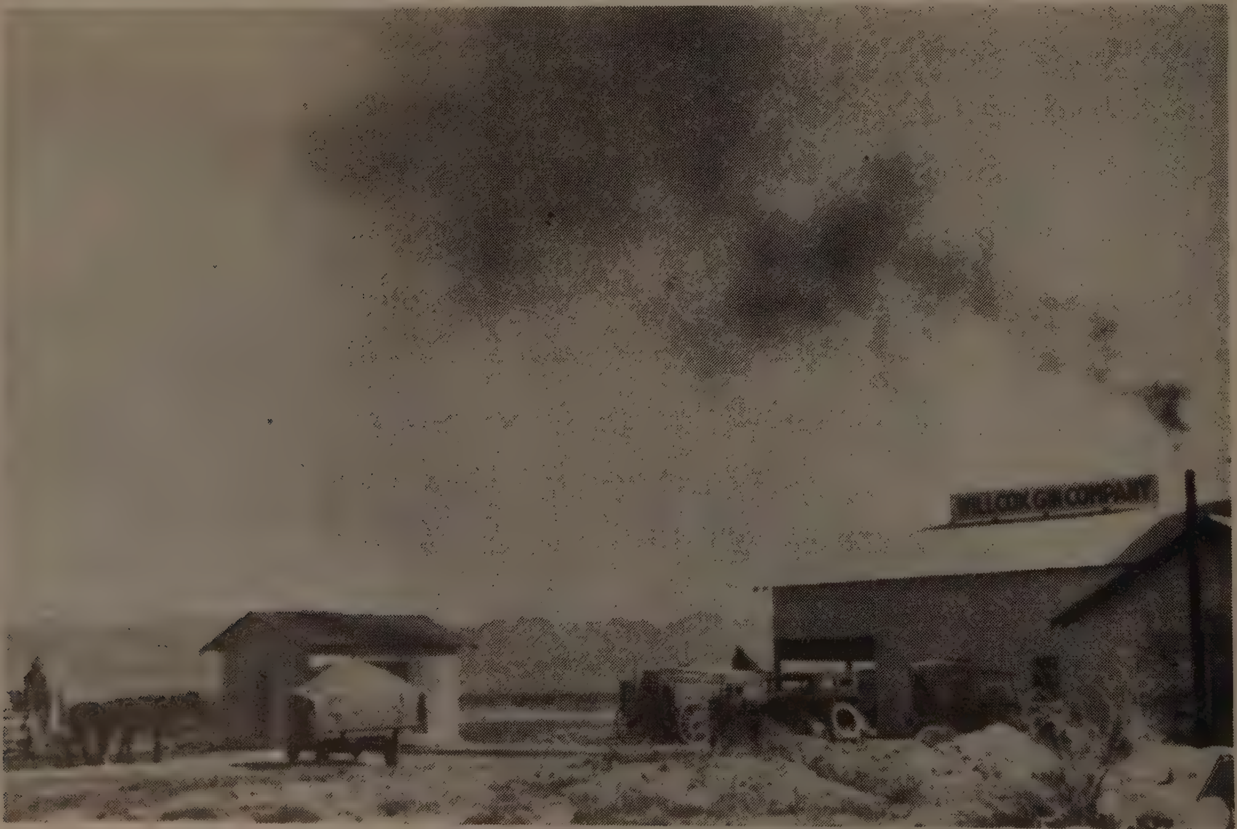


The Harry Parks home, still a landmark in Willcox is pictured above. Originally built in 1881, it is a good example of early Arizona architecture. The Parks lived in this home into their old age.

--Harry Parks Collection.

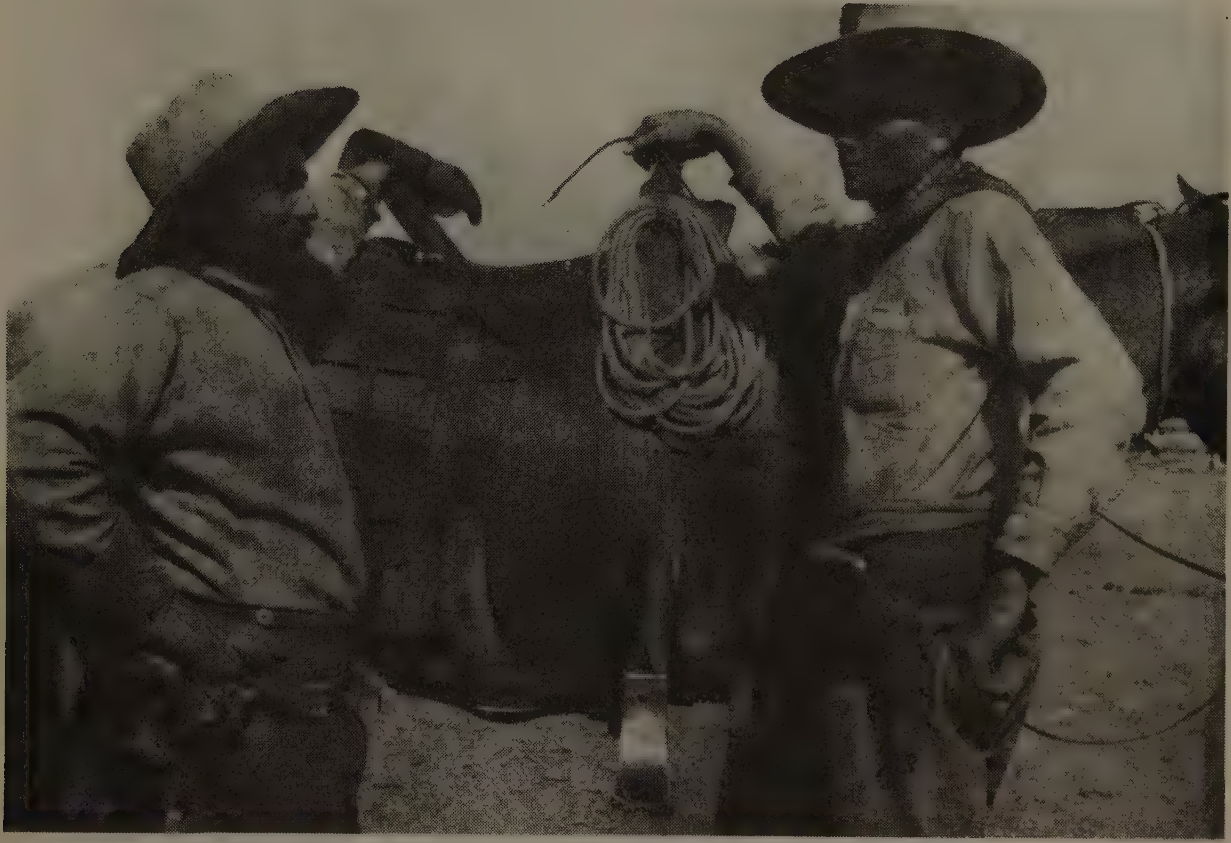


This view of Maley Street, Willcox, was taken by Harry Parks before 1933. The Riggs Bank Building, Masonic Building and old Methodist Church can be seen on the north side of the street.
--Harry Parks Collection.



The Willcox Gin Company is shown with cart loads of cotton which were hauled by horse or mule team for ginning. The Gin was located on Maley east of the railroad tracks.
--Harry Parks Collection.

Violence Erupted In Pioneer Willcox



Cowboys, horses, guns--Western lore is filled with these three. Early Willcox had its share of gunfire and bloodshed in the 1880's. Law enforcement was often ineffectual since peace officers in Willcox were sometimes criminals themselves. *--Harry Parks Collection.*

Charles Wesley Brown, a sailor enroute to his home in Florida, was shot and killed on the railroad platform by Constable George Collins in March 1, 1881, who accused him of "skylarking."

In 1883, Issac M. Bateman, 60, and Harvey M. Dibble, 34, were killed by Apaches on the road to the Winchester mine, within sight of Willcox. Bateman, who was a mining engineer and had a brother, who was a federal judge, with funds to invest in the mine. Both victims were shot twice and Bateman's head had been beaten to a pulp. Both bodies were stripped of their clothing.

Billy King, Col. Hooker's ranch foreman, was shot six times in the back by Deputy Sheriff Burt Alvord. Bill Traynor was fatally shot by Bill Downing and near his grave in Willcox's old cemetery lies Bill Downing who was killed in his own "Free & Easy Saloon" by Territorial Ranger Billy Speed.

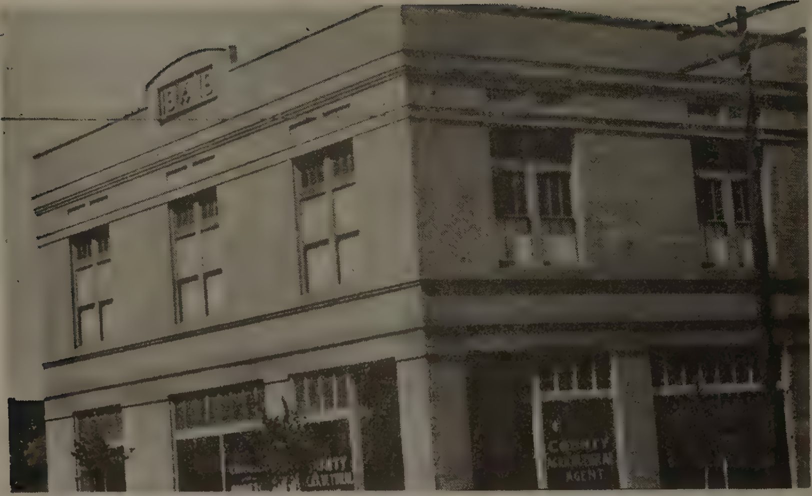
Downing was said to have once been a member of the Sam Bass gang of outlaws. He had recently been released from Yuma Prison, where he had served time for a train-robbery planned by two other peace officers, Matt Burt and Alvord.

When Speed told him to raise his hands, he reached instead into his pocket. There was nothing in his pocket except a white, linen handkerchief. His beloved wife, Florence, had recently died and perhaps this was really suicide.

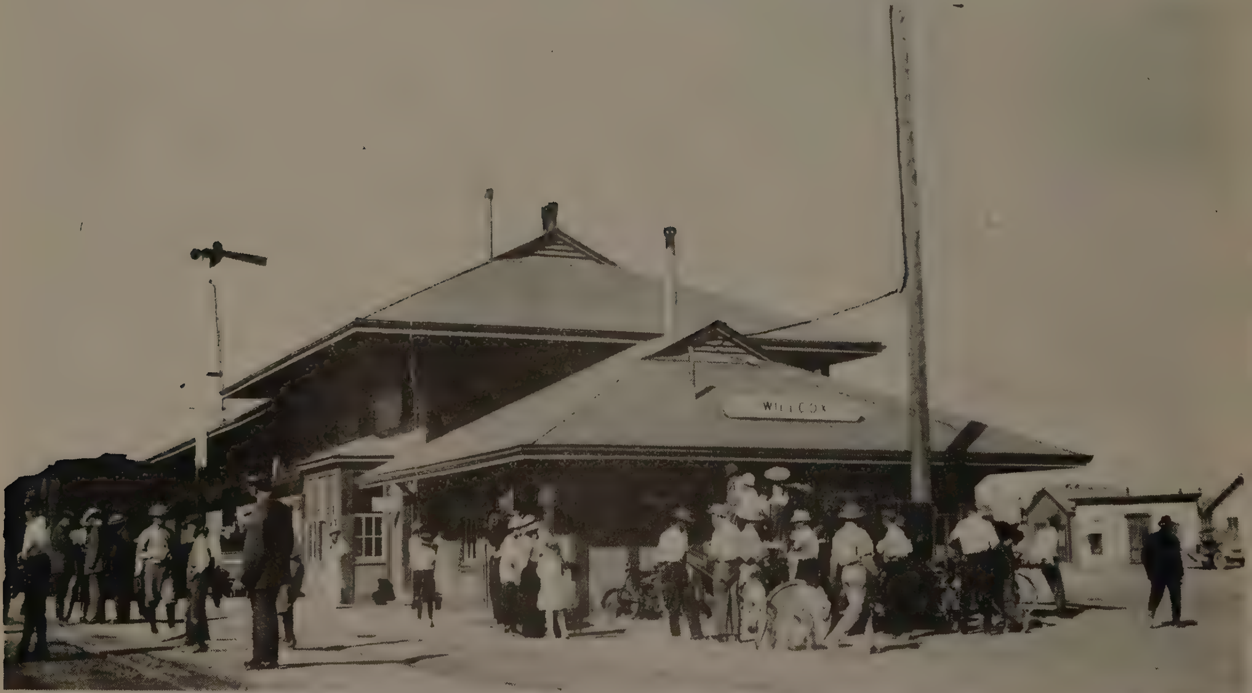
John Elmer and Charles Henslee were killed on Oct. 3, 1883 near Willcox by a posse headed by Bob Pauls, sheriff of Pima County, in an exciting gun battle. They were the last survivors of the "Red Jack" gang of stage-robbers who lived at Redington on the San Pedro. They are buried in Willcox's old cemetery.

Gunfire did not always mean a gun-fight in Willcox. An alert marshall roused the townsmen the night of Oct. 13, 1896 in time to escape from a flood of water gushing through the streets from the Galiura mountains, following a cloud-burst. Many adobe buildings melted away, but no lives were lost.

--by Grace McCool

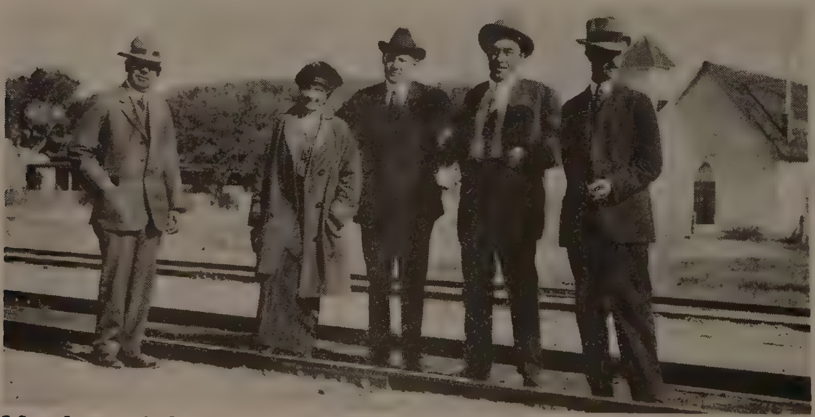


The Navajo Hotel, at the corner of Railroad Avenue and Maley.
--Rinki Hughes Collection.



In this photo of the Willcox train depot, the crowd must have been expecting an important arrival. Note the band in the foregound. The date of the photo is not known.

--Rinki Hughes Collection.



Members of the Hooker family pose for a photo in front of the Hooker town house. Edwin Russell Hooker is on the far left, and Joseph Hooker is on the far right. --Rinki Hughes Collection.

Train Robbery Caused Silver Shower

The railroad was often either carrying gold, silver and copper from the mines, or payroll to the mines. It was a good target for robbery. A famous train robbery which occurred just outside of Willcox is described below. *--Harry Parks Collection.*

Other towns have had freak storms, but only in Willcox has it rained silver dollars. This was on Jan. 3, 1895. County Sheriff C.S. Fly was standing on a pool table really warming up to his topic, "vote for Fly for sheriff," when he was interrupted by the clatter of eight thousand silver pesos hitting the roof.

By this date, stage robbing had gone out of style and holding up trains was the "in" thing. Grant Wheeler and Joe George were hidden at the rear of the engine when the Southern Pacific train pulled out of town. Zeigman, the engineer first knew they were there when they ordered him to stop the train or have his head blown off.

While one outlaw remained with the engineer, the other uncoupled the baggage and express car and pulled ahead. The two outlaws were not only armed with a pistol and a rifle, but were casually carrying a sack of blasting powder. The Wells-Fargo messenger refused to open the car door, but the engineer had had his orders not to be a martyr and he opened it.

"We better find something to weigh this powder down or it will just blow a hole in the roof and not open the safe," one bandit allowed. The other grabbed up eight sacks of Mexican pesos, in those days made of pure silver, and put four sacks, each holding one thousand pesos, on each safe and lit the fuse.

The powder blew, blowing the roof of the express car into the air and showering money all over Willcox. While one outlaw covered the train crew with his rifle the other scooped the gold and currency from the two wrecked safes and they backed away into the night. They made a clean get-away, although a county sheriff's posse, a deputy U.S. Marshal, Scott White, who later was elected Cochise County Sheriff, and a posse, and a railroad detective and a posse took out after them.

They were comfortably roughing it in the old outlaw rendevous just north of Elfrida in the Swisshelm mountains, but they soon became bored with security and sallied out to hold up a train in Stein's Pass but failed. The following night they spent with a cowboy at a line camp who had no idea they were outlaws until he discovered a twenty-dollar gold piece under each of their plates after they had ridden away.

From there, Joe George rode west and is believed to have joined the Sontag and Evans gang and met death during a train hold-up. Grant Wheeler was killed in Mancos Canyon in Colorado by a posse headed by Billy Breakenridge, the railroad detective. Although Wells-Fargo paid the bounty they had offerred on him, the dead outlaw had sufferred so much from wounds, hunger and thirst some friends who viewed the remains failed to believe this was really Grant Wheeler, and there was a rumor the laughing bandit was later seen in Kansas.

--by Grace McCool

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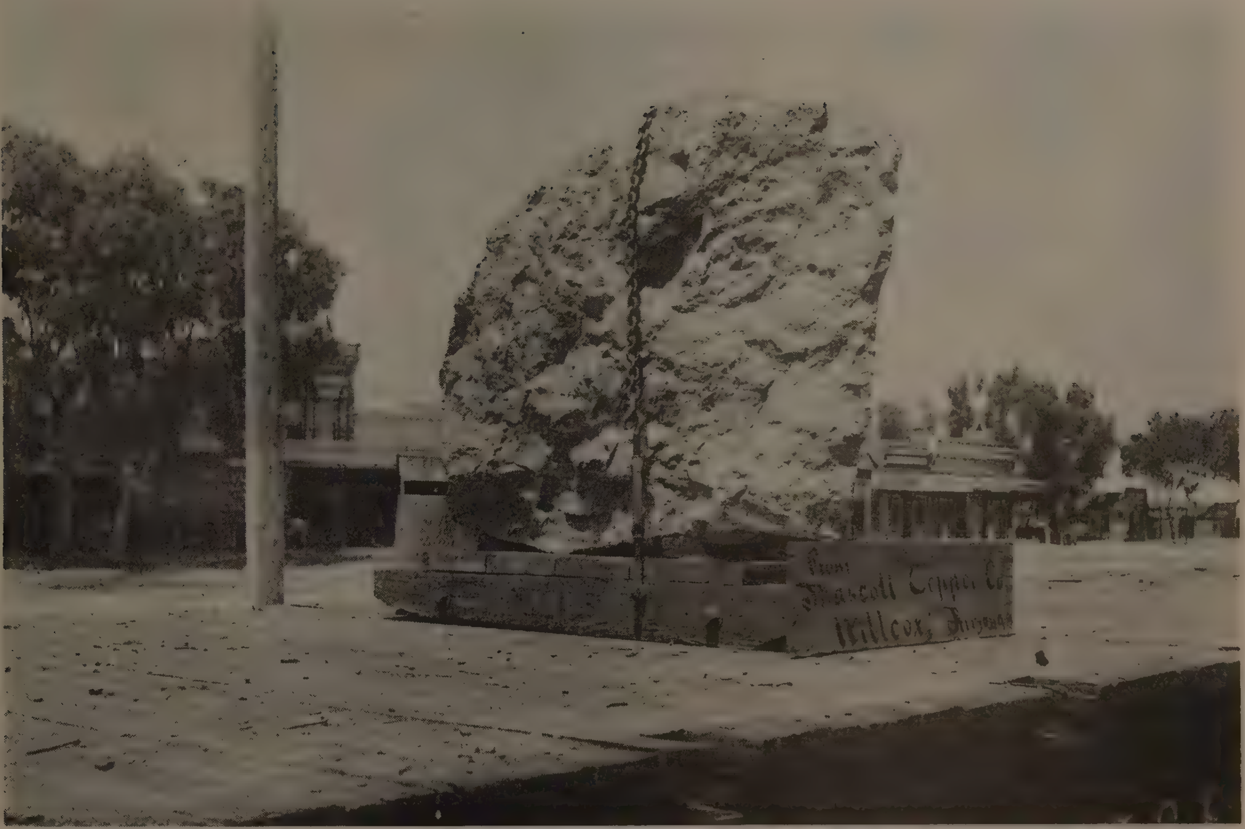
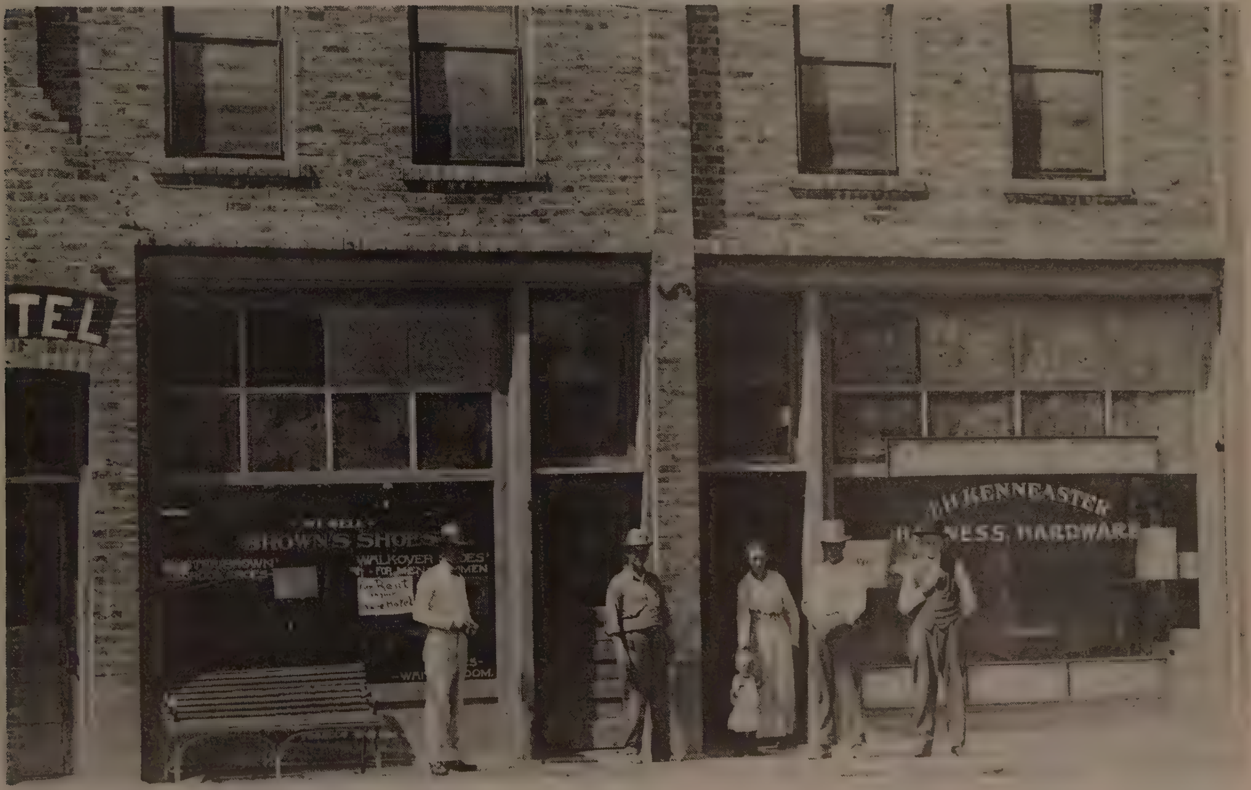
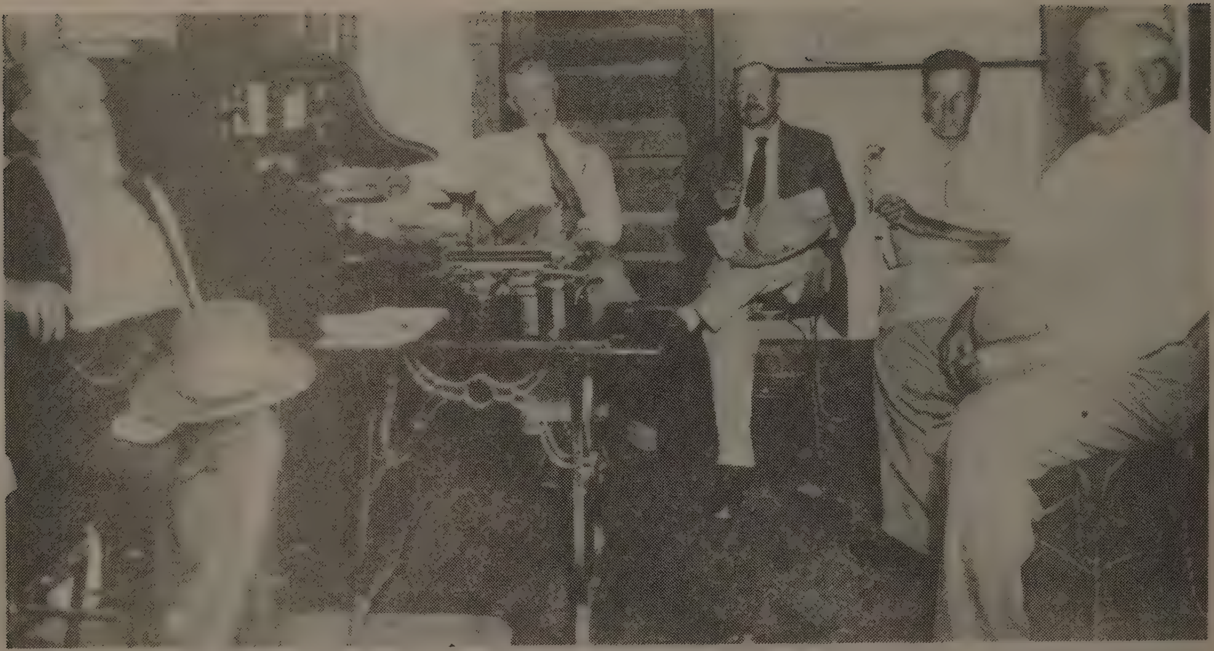


This large piece of copper ore was brought down from the Mascot Mine, above Dos Cabezas and taken to the east where it was displayed in many different places. This photo shows the stores along Railroad Avenue in excellent detail. *--Ray Wien Collection.*

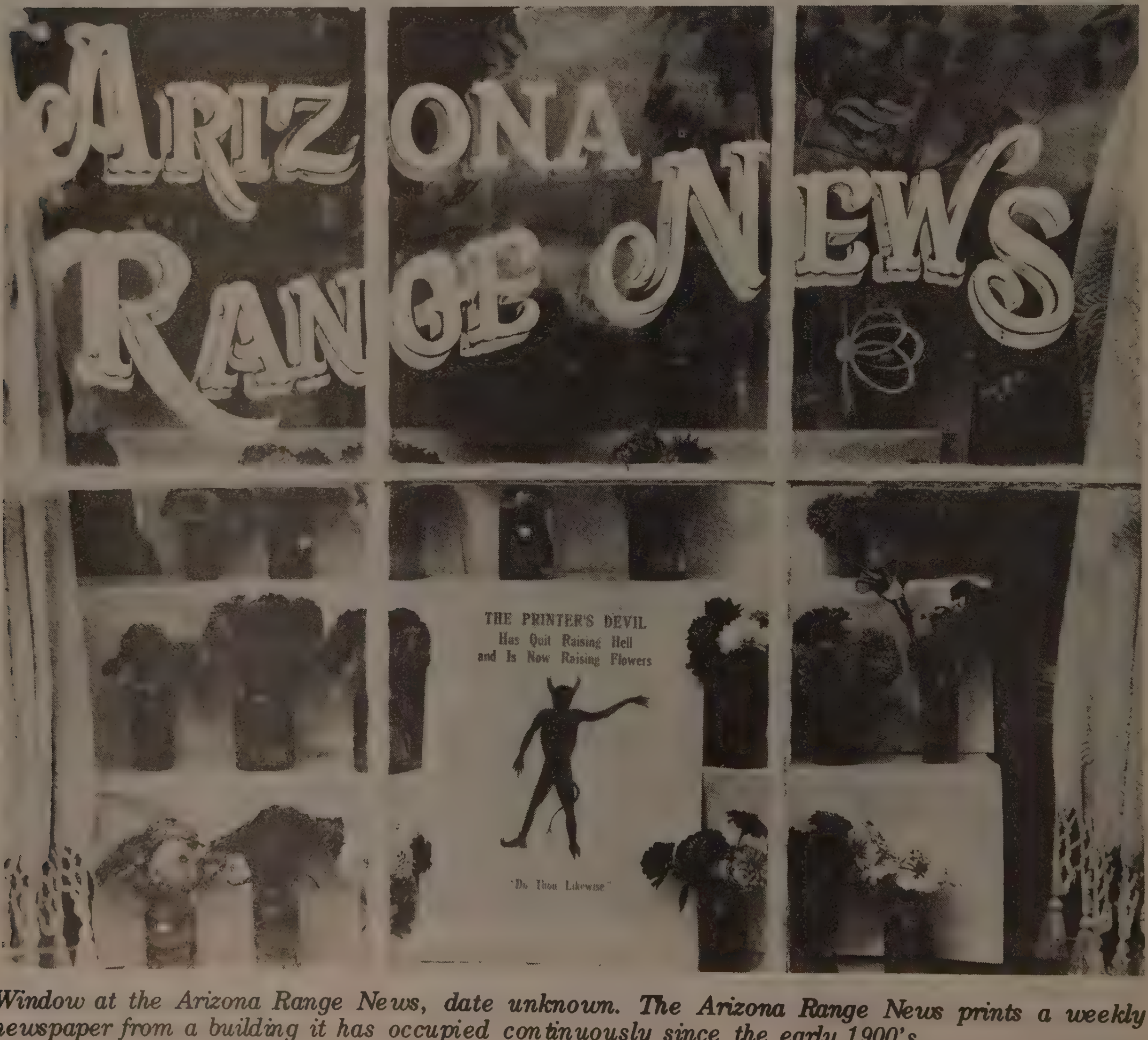


Residents pose outside two businesses flourishing in Willcox in 1913. This shoe store and hardware store were located on Maley Avenue, under the Navajo Hotel, which cornered Maley and Railroad Avenue. *--Dorothy Uhl Ellis Collection.*



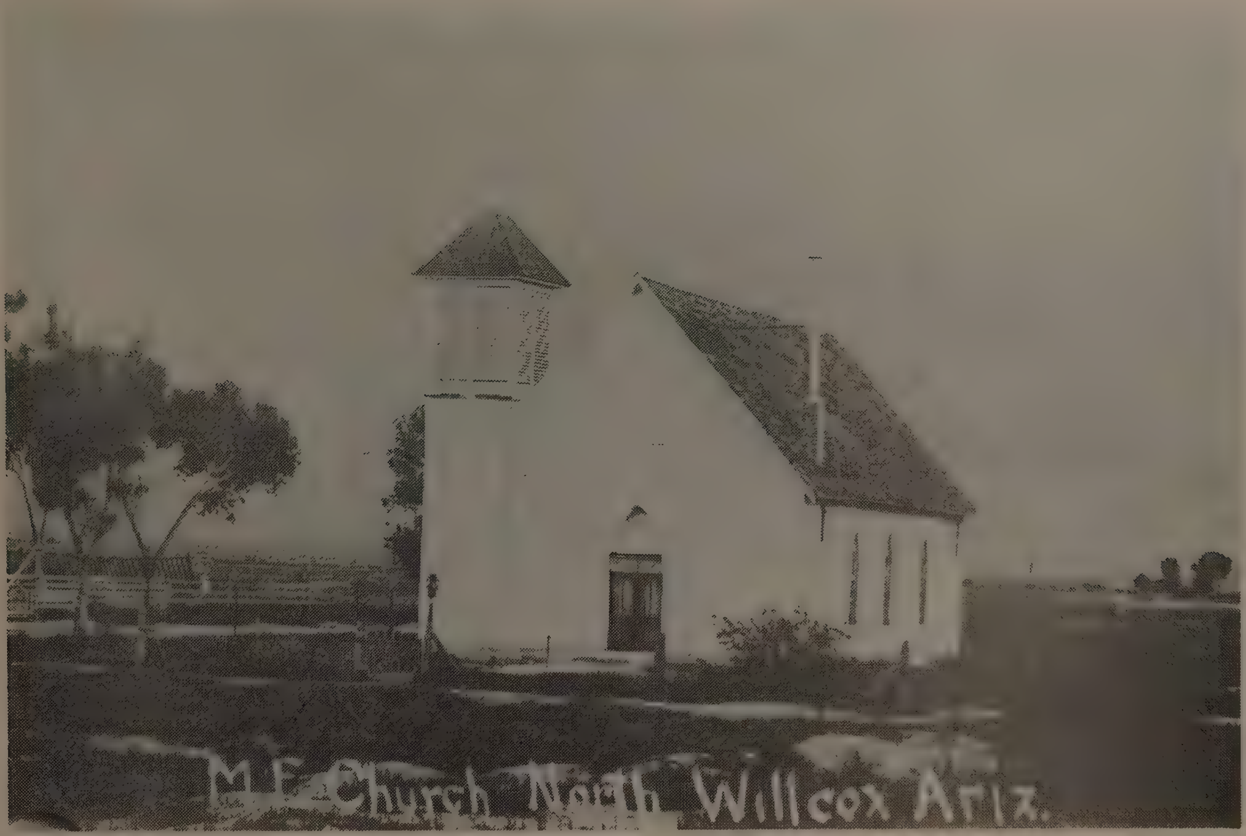
Interior of the Justice of the Peace's office is shown above. From left to right: L. Judge Page [Mrs. Harry Parks' father]; M. McCourt, R. McComb, man in short sleeves is unknown.

--Harry Parks Collection.



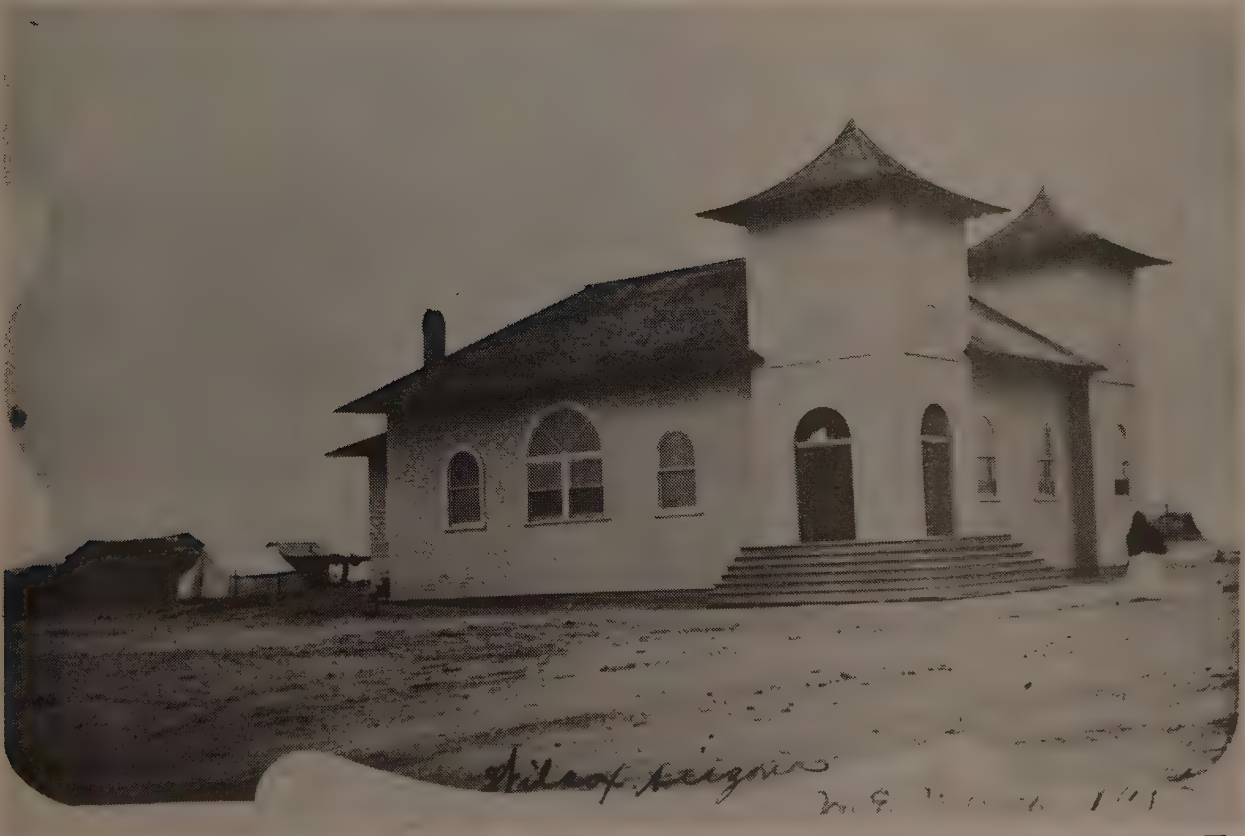
Window at the Arizona Range News, date unknown. The Arizona Range News prints a weekly newspaper from a building it has occupied continuously since the early 1900's.

--Harry Parks Collection.



Churches were an important feature of early Willcox. Among the prominent early churches to be built was this Methodist Church, located in north Willcox.

--Harry Parks Collection.



In 1910 a newer Methodist Church was constructed on the corner of Maley and Curtis Avenues. The church was torn down in recent years and the present Methodist Church was erected on the site.

--Harry Parks Collection.

Early Willcox residents placed a high priority on the education of their children. Both the Elementary and High Schools were lovely architectural works. Pictured above is the Union High School.
--Harry Parks Collection.

The Elementary School in Willcox, shown here, was remodeled in later years and became the Willcox office of the Sulphur Springs Valley Electric Cooperative. The elementary school was moved to larger and more modern facilities.
--Harry Parks Collection.

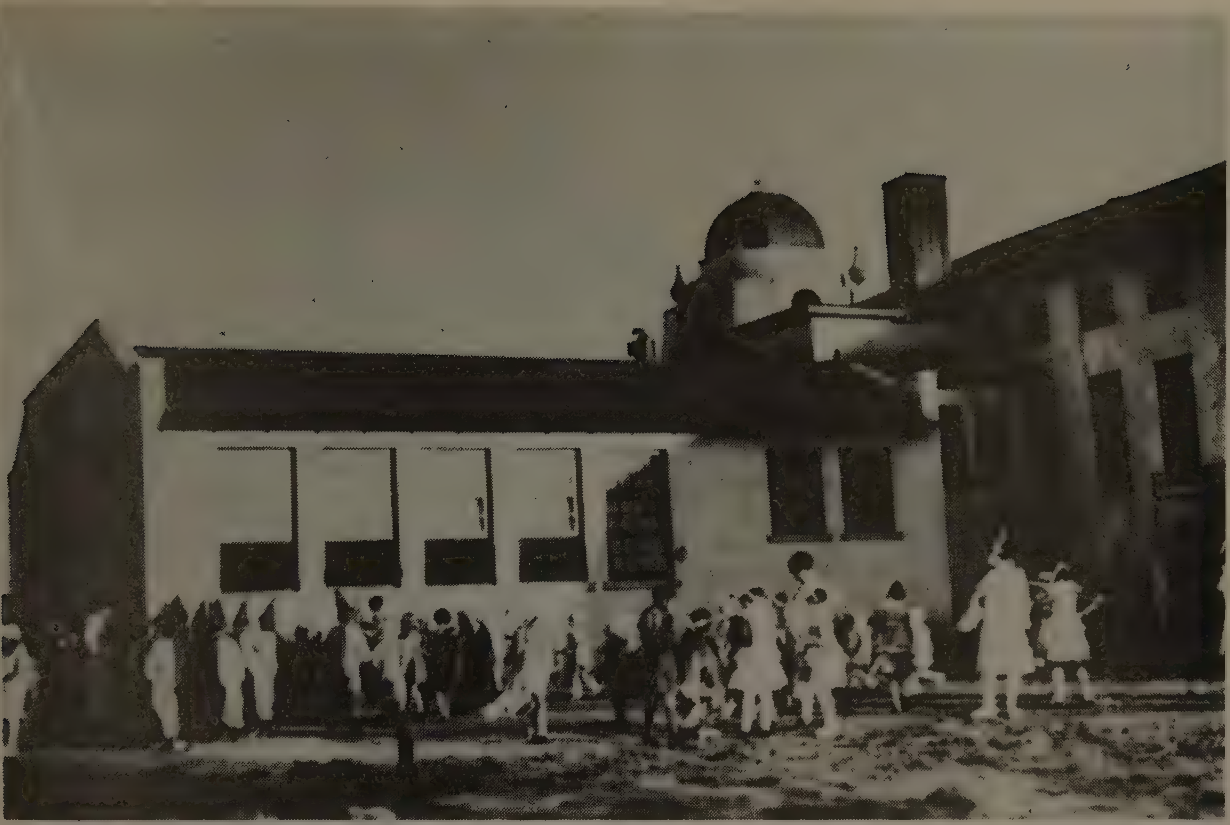
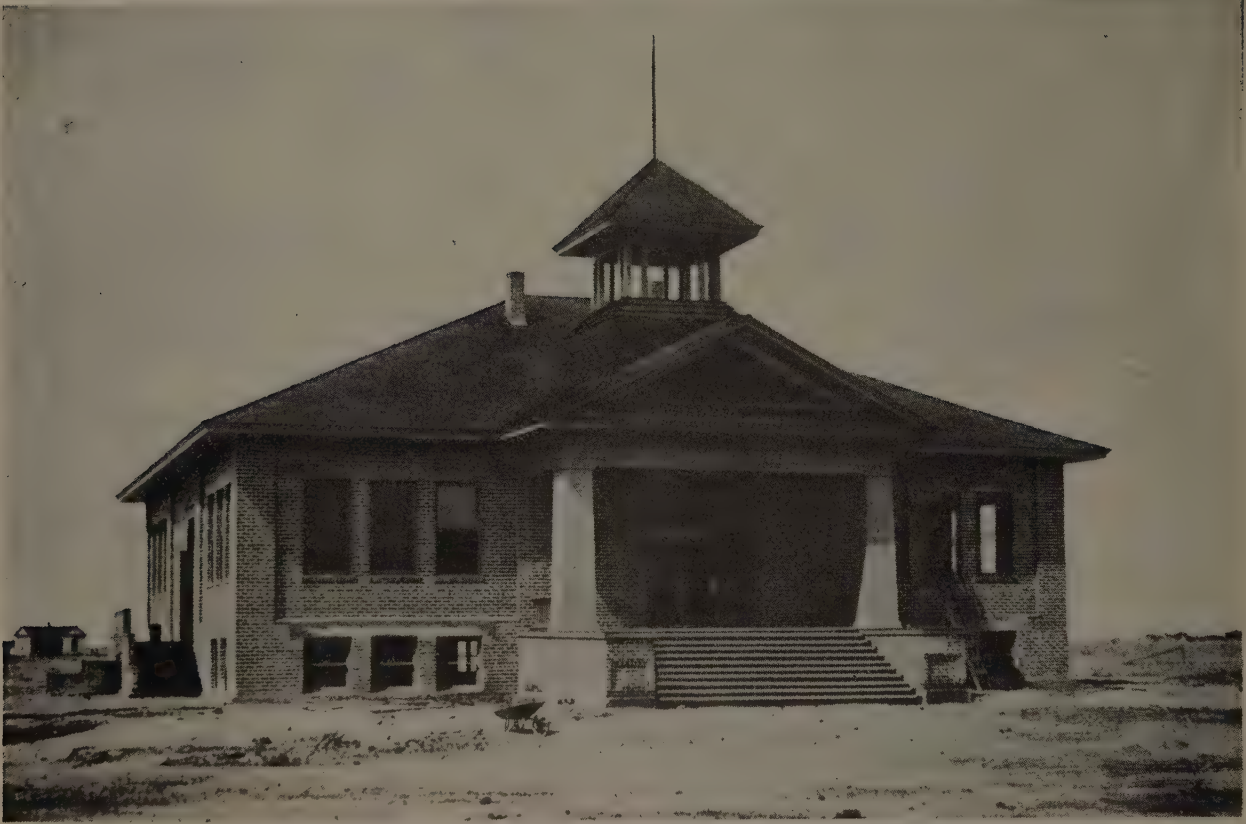


Photo above shows children at play behind the Union High School, Willcox. The hats and costumes suggest that possibly there was a party in progress.

--Harry Parks Collection.

A Willcox Union High School Class of the 1940's poses for a picture.



Pictured above is the original Willcox High School, described in 1913 pamphlet at "New Willcox High School." This high school later became the auditorium for the larger Union High School.

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Willcox became part of early aviation history when Cal Rogers stopped in Willcox on the first transcontinental plane flight, circa 1910. Note the crowd of interested bystanders.

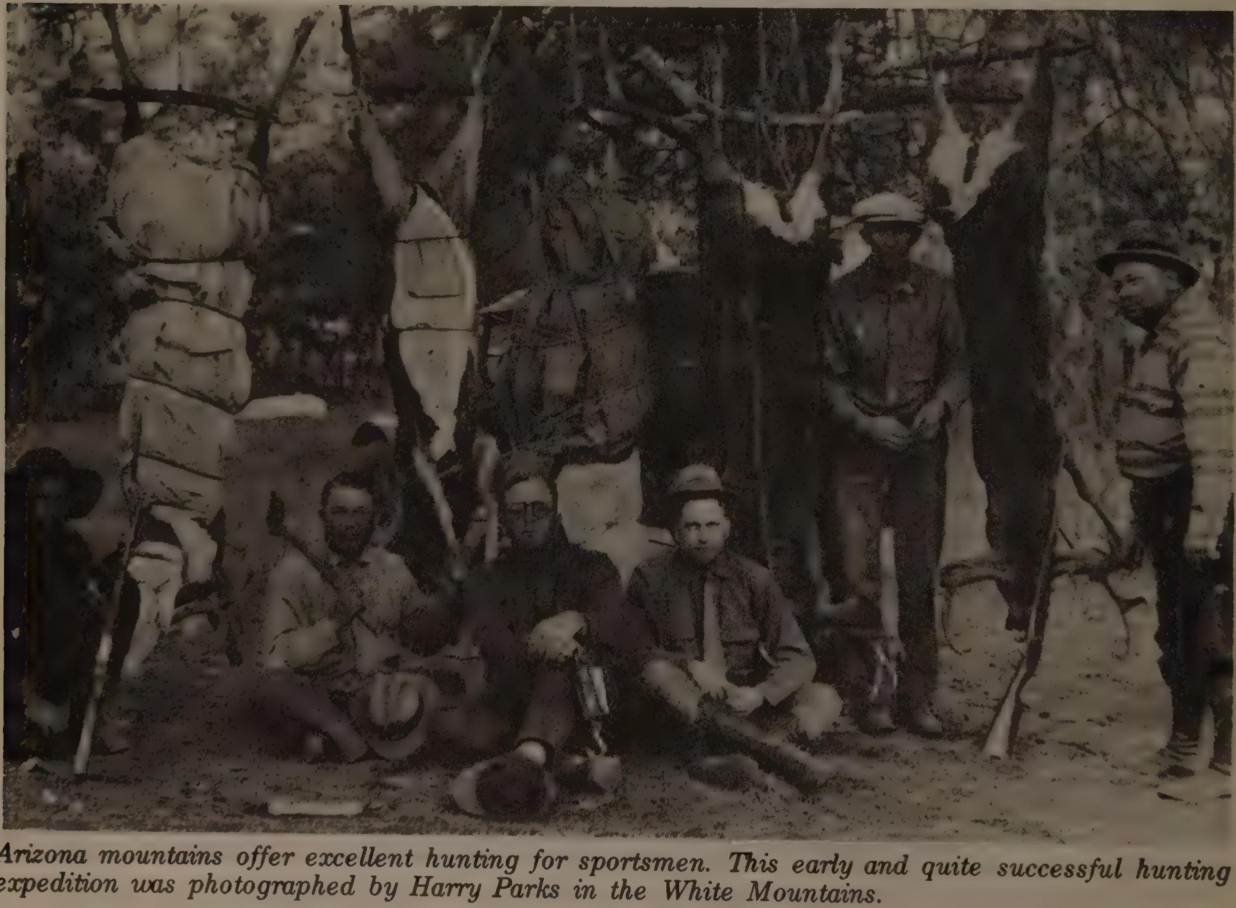
--Harry Parks Collection.

Baseball has always been an important part of the summer in Willcox. The town had its own team as early as 1908, when this assemblage of athletes dressed like women for this picture.

--Harry Parks Collection.

One of the advantages of living in Willcox has always been its proximity to the beautiful Chiricahua Mountains. Pictured above are some early residents enjoying a trail ride in the mountains.

--Harry Parks Collection.



Arizona mountains offer excellent hunting for sportsmen. This early and quite successful hunting expedition was photographed by Harry Parks in the White Mountains.

--Harry Parks Collection.

Boom Towns To Ghost Towns/2

(and back again)

Johnson Camp Was A Boom Town

Johnson Camp is a half mile north of Interstate 10 and a few miles west of Willcox. Children from the camp attend school in Willcox and when the mines were working around the clock many of the miners commuted from Willcox.

Russellville was founded before 1870 and renamed Johnson in 1900, at a highly mineralized site in the Little Dragoon Mountains that had been worked intermittenly by Spaniards, Mexicans and Americans. It ghosted away after World War II, but has begun booming again as a mining camp.

Russellville was named for Capt. George Briggs Russell, who, with 18 foot soldiers had a pitched battle with Chief Cochise and 150 well-armed hostiles on the site. Russell lost only one man; the Apaches lost 15.

In 1882, when the "Citizens of Russellville petitioned for the appointment of A. Jordan as justice of the peace," 92 men voted at the polls, Precinct No. 15, while only 82 voted in Willcox.

Between 1870 and 1882, the mine made a profit of $110,000, but the camp was abandoned and the mine and 33 ton smelter closed because of the lack of water.

PEABODY MINE

In 1900, the Peabody mine was opened three miles from the original site and the smelter moved there. It was named Johnson City for the mine superintendent. Miners were paid $3 for each 10-hour shift. Copper was the mineral mined, but the veins were also rich in chalcopyrite, chalcacite, bornite and mica shist.

In addition to the Peabody, the Delta, Florence Copper King, Siver Cord, Highland Mary, Republic, Southern, San Antonio, Concho, Donna Ana, Boss and Tam O'Shanter mines were also developed. Work was started in the Black Prince in 1901 and at the Republic Mine by George Shearer a year later.

School district No. 11 at Russellville extended from the Golden Rule Mine to Sheep Canyon, from there to the Horse Ranch and back to start. D.A. Adams, Asa Walker and S.M. Schilling were first trustees and J.A. Rockfellow was first teacher. He had a bad moment when a band of Apache scouts rode up and decided to visit a paleface school. At first he thought they were hostiles bent on destruction. There were five teachers at the school in 1916. This year the Cabriza Development Co. shipped 5,000 tons of ore each month to the Douglas smelter.

In 1918, the Spanish flu caused the deaths of a great many people nationwide and Johnson City was so hard hit that the people who lived there voted to move the town. They did move all of their houses to within walking distance of the Dreadnaught, Old Republic and Copper King shafts.

These mines worked 24 hours a day during World War I, but production tapered off after the Armistice until 1941 when the Republic again worked three shifts each 24 hours. The ore was trucked to the railroad at Cochise and shipped to Douglas.

This mine in 1955 had 143 men working who were getting out an average of 240 tons each day.

By 1957 the big mines had closed, but some leasors continued to mine copper until recently.

MANY DIED

The cemetery is especially interesting. Among the many burials are Luis Bustamante, who was killed underground when he loaded a drilled hole with blasting powder and tapped it with a hammer on Oct. 26, 1883.

On March 6, 1884, J.W. Roberts was killd when he drilled a missed hole. Jose Gonzales died after being stabbed with a wrought iron miner's candlestick. Two miners died when their boarding house burned. Francisco Valenzuelo was killed by a premature explosion of a blast in the Peabody mine on Nov. 5, 1901 and George Everetts was killed in a saloon by Peter Devaux. Devaux was sentenced to ten years in Yuma prison on May 8, 1883. Enroute, he jumped through the train window and lit on the only rock pile in 100 miles and was killed.

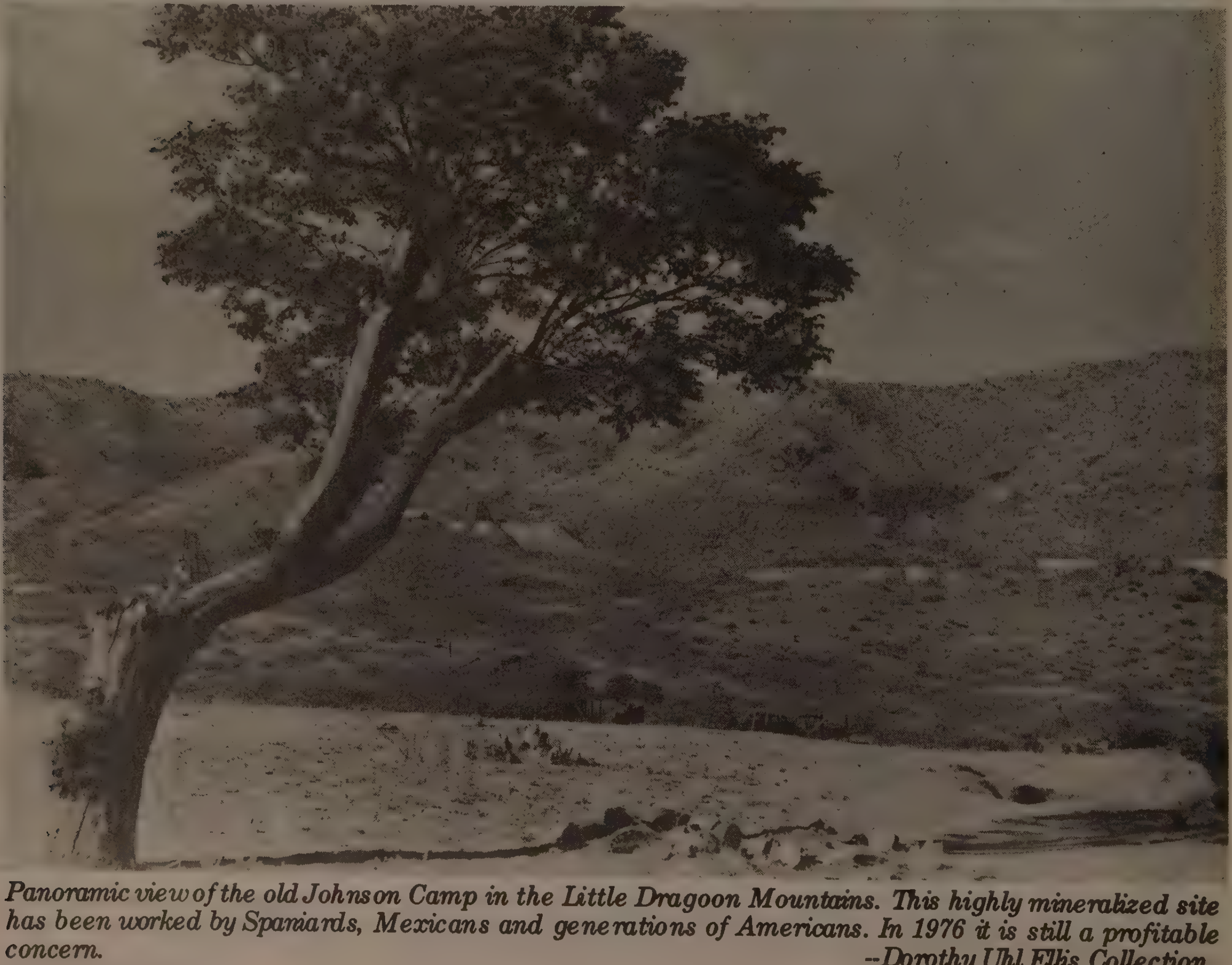
In 1882 there was a general store and two saloons, Andy Mehan, who also had a saloon in Tombstone owned one and man named Smith the other.

--by Grace McCool

Work on the compressor is pictured above during the boom days at the Black Diamond Mine at the Johnson Camp. At the controls in the foreground is Mort Wien. Man second from right in the background is George Brown.

--Ray Wien Collection.

Mining equipment sitting outdoors at the Johnson Camp. The Johnson Mine has re-opened recently as the Cyprus-Johnson Mine, employing the most modern mining equipment and techniques.
--Dorothy Uhl Ellis Collection.



Panoramic view of the old Johnson Camp in the Little Dragoon Mountains. This highly mineralized site has been worked by Spaniards, Mexicans and generations of Americans. In 1976 it is still a profitable concern.
--Dorothy Uhl Ellis Collection.

Pearce's Strike Emptied Tombstone

Things were slowing down in Tombstone by 1890 as the mines were drowning. Times became tough in the early years of the last decade of the century and many of the boomtown's residents pulled stakes for more prosperous camps. Johnny Pearce, cattleman, miner and prospector, not only left the dying town, but soon was to return and take with him most of those who had stayed behind, in Arizona's last big gold rush.

Johnny (John James) Pearce was middleaged when in 1893 he decided to pull out of Tombstone. In his early years he had been a cowhand but turned miner following the opening of the Tombstone mines. There he raised his family, sons growing up in the boom town while his wife, known far and wide as "Ma" Pearce, ran one of the more popular boarding houses for the silver miners.

By the spring of 1894 the family was comfortably settled on a spread some 20 miles east and a fraction north of Tombstone. As warm days became general, Johnny took to riding out most every morning, carrying a canteen and a bait of grub. Said he was scouting the range for stock-raising purposes, but the excuse failed to convicence Ma and the boys. They knew he had prospecting in his blood, and that he was methodically working out the outcrops in the hills and mountains surrounding their ranch.

Along about noon one day Johnny and his horse topped a hill that rose right out of the floor of the wide valley. Dismounting, he took a seat on a rock ledge along the northern edge of the hill and broke out a can of sardines and a bit of bread. Lunch over, the prospector picked up a piece of dark, heavy outcrop, then cracked it against another rock. Both broke and both showed free gold. Johnny had it made.

Returning the next morning accompanied by his three sons, Pearce staked five strategically located claims. One for himself, one for Ma, one each for the boys. Then, gathering samples, he headed for Tombstone and the assay office.

Johnny hadn't been in Tombstone long before the news leaked out that he had some mighty promising samples of gold ore being assayed. Well-known in the mining camp, friends, acquaintances and total strangers were soon pressing the miner for details of his find. "There's no secret about it boys," Pearce said. "I just prowled around this little hill a bit, found the outcrop and here I am. Sure, we've got five claims staked and filed, but there ought to be room for 500 more. This was an opportune moment, for the assayer to

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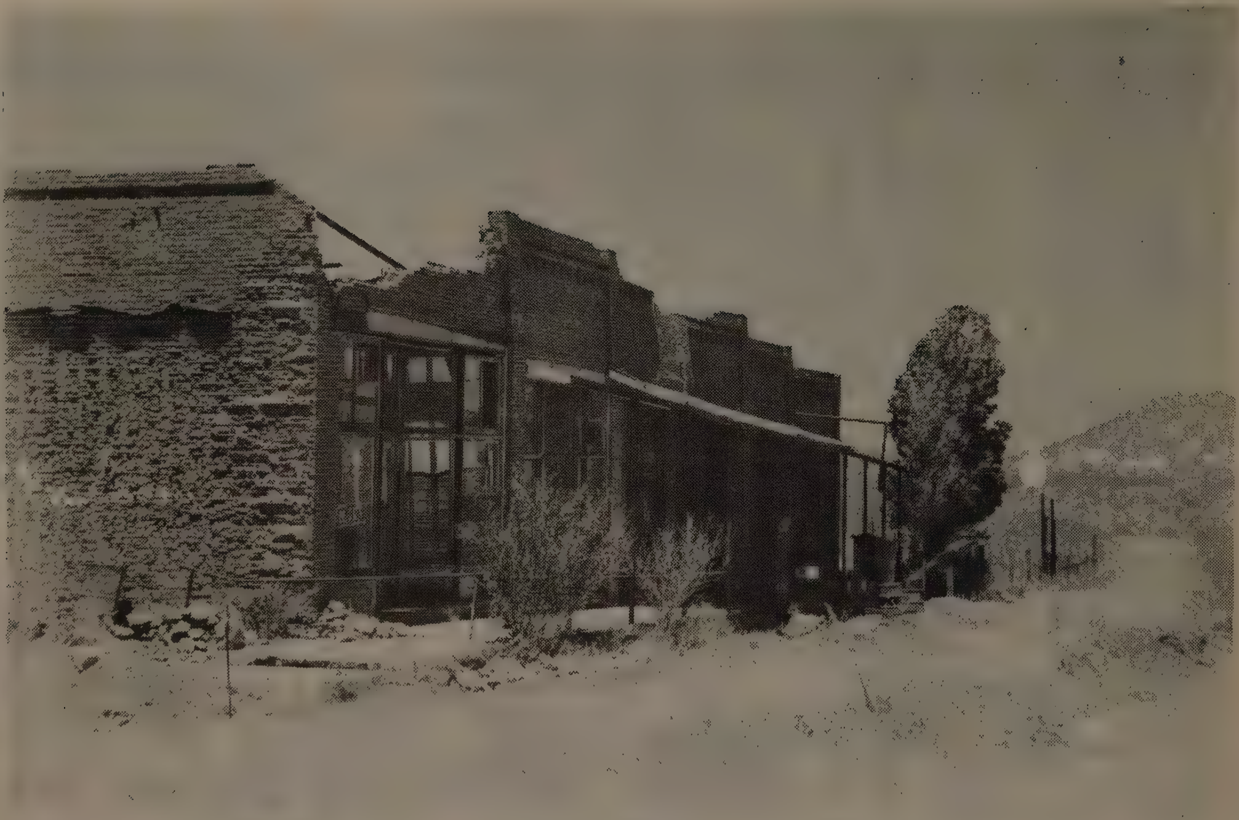

Pictured above is the haunting ruins of Courtland, a mining town founded in 1909. During the height of its glory, Courtland boasted 1,500 persons.

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T.E. Fleetham, Sr.
Willcox, Arizona

announce that the samples showed $22,000 a ton in silver and about $5,000 in gold. That's exactly what happened, and the stampede was on.

Inside four hours, Tombstone was all but depopulated. First to leave were those who had saddle horses of their own. Soon followed any man with enough cash to rent a horse or rig from a livery stable. Along came the ranchers, freighters and storekeepers driving heavy wagons. Following these were the prospectors with perhaps a burro and lastly those who devoid of other means of transportation turned to shank's mare and took out on foot.

Soon a column of dust arose as hundreds of humans and animals headed for Middle March Pass in the Dragoons. Through this rugged trail so recently abandoned by the Apache Indians, most of the camp of Tombstone moved. A dozen years earlier none of the caravan would have considered passing through this area, but now the Apaches were tamed and millions in gold and silver awaited them just beyond these jagged peaks. To hell with caution, gold fever was in their blood.

First arrivals staked claims adjoining those of the Pearces. The next filed on property that connected to their faster traveling brethen, and so on it went until every inch of the country for several miles around Johnny's discovery had been claimed.

Pearce, his sons and sons-in-laws, went to work on their mine, named the Commonwealth. Using only crowbars and picks, they broke the ore from the outcrop and shipped their first car. This contained ore, country rock and overburden, but it netted $1,000.

As soon as the word spread about the richness of the Commonwealth, a horde of promoters began beseiging Johnny to lease or sell. He wasn't anxious to lose control of the property, but the sons in the family felt that the money was coming too slowly, so an agreement was finally reached with John Brockman, a Silver City mining man.

Under the terms of the agreement, Brockman would take over operation of the mine and he had 90 days in which to pay the Pearces $250,000 or leave all ore and work as it was. So rich was the property, that under the expert management of Brockman, he had over $250,000 in ore stockpiled in less than 60 days. Selling the ore, he tendered payment to the Pearce family but ran into a snag in the person of strong-willed Ma Pearce.

The richness of the orebody at the Commonwealth was fabulous. One large body went $22,000 per ton in silver at a time when the white metal was only bringing sixty cents an ounce. Gold in another slope paid off to the tune of $7,500. There was a great deal of highgrading going on during the boom years, with most every miner taking out a week's wages a day in his dinner pail. Apparently the property was so rich that the owners didn't even take the usual precautions to discourage theft. As a result, there was always a waiting list of miners wanting to get on the Commonwealth payroll. Over $30 million were taken from the mine.

Brockman got possession of the property in May of 1896 and immediately went to work developing a large scale mining operation. A 100-stamp mill was erected at the Commonwealth, fired by fuel oil hauled in by 24-mule teams. Oil and supplies were freighted from the Southern Pacific railway stop at Cochise, 16 miles away. Ore went out the same way.

Now prices for metals are high and the old dumps are being worked to recover valuable gold and silver that were once thrown away. Perhaps Pearce will bloom again.

--by Grace McCool

Courtland And Gleason Boomed, Died

There is a graded road from Pearce to Courtland, now a ghost town. It was established in 1909 by W.J. Young one of the owners of the Leadville & Great Western Mining Company and named Courtland honoring his brother, Courtland Young. In 1910, 1,500 persons lived there. Although the town is deserted some leasors are working small mines in the hills around town and taking out ore that runs to copper with some silver and lead.

Gleason, west of Courtland used to be called Turquoise. There is a privately owned turquoise mine seventeen miles from the townsite that has been intermittantly worked for 2,000 years. Gleason is not exactly a ghost town; a few people live there.

Turquoise was near Soldier Hole, the Silver Bell, Brother Jonathan, Pejon and Defiance mines were in operation from the early 1880s and made millions of dollars for their owners. At first more men worked hauling hay and grain and miscellaneous supplies into the town than worked in the mines. They used freight wagons pulled by 16 mules.

The El Paso & Southwestern railroad built a branch from Douglas to nearby Courtland and the Arizona & Eastern railroad built from Cochise to Gleason. The two sets of tracks crossed at Kelton, a railroad hamlet named for a Cochise County sheriff. The children of Kelton used to ride their burros to school in Courtland.

The name of the town was changed to Gleason, honoring John Gleason who bought the largest mine. More than 1,000 persons lived in Gleason in 1910 and it had a Catholic Church, a school, a movie theater, a general store and a Chinese restaurant.

--by Grace McCool

Farmers Settled Elfrida And McNeal

Elfrida was established in the valley before World War I. It was named by G.I. Van Meter for his Danish mother. It was a farming center and McNeal was soon built just a few miles away named for Miles McNeal, a homesteader from Missouri. In 1928 Amelia Earhart, while scouting for the Women's Air Derby, landed at McNeal and found she had a flat tire.

It was fixed by Lewis Burton and A.R. Porter. The McNeal Ladies Aid was meeting for a chicken dinner at the home of Mrs. E.H. Taylor. They invited her and she spent two happy hours with them.

The valley became so important as a farming area it had its own newspaper, the Sulphur Valley News, published by George W. McFarlin and Phil S. Montague in Willcox.

Elfrida is at the foot of the Swisshelm mountains. The Spaniards called them the Pedrogosa mountains, but they were renamed to honor a prospector, Henry Swisshelm, who prospected there in 1878. At that time renegade Apaches liked to camp there and several prospectors were killed by them.

--by Grace McCool

Experimental Farming Techniques Used

Although cattle raising was of great importance in the Sulphur Spring Valley, Col. Hooker also farmed and raised alfalfa at his Sierra Bonita ranch and irrigated it from wells only 15 feet deep.

In 1905 a solar engine was used on the John May ranch to run a steam engine to pump water to raise a crop of pink beans. The sun's heat was focused by a 36-foot reflector made of little mirrors. A copper boiler 68 x 12 generated steam that was piped to a 6-cylinder marine engine.

The whole project was designed by a man named Post from Boston, and built by Burt Parker of Willcox.

Judge McCall directed the project on John May's ranch. Unfortunately a hail storm broke the little mirrors and the project was abandoned. Sam Coleman, who came to Arizona with the Pinkerton detective Charlie Seringo, worked many years for Jake Shearer, who ran the Double Rod (II) outfit saved his money and bought a farm at Elfrida. He rigged up a Chinese water-wheel and scraped to water.

--by Grace McCool

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Chiricahua Names Bespeak History

Place names in the Chiricahua, the Dragoon and the Peloncillo divisions of the Coronado National Forest reflect much of these mountains' Indian, military and pioneer history.

Welling up to summits nearly 10,000 feet in elevation and dominating the Sulphur Springs Valley southeast of Willcox lie the vast Chiricahua Mountains, homeland for the famed Chiricahua Apache tribe. It was from rancherias located in the incredibly rugged canyons of the range that Cochise successfully waged a guerrilla war on the government of the United States for nearly two decades. The mile long rock formation that telescopes the northern skyline of the mountain and seems to capture the profile of a reclining warrior is called Cochise Head after the great leader.

One of the most outstanding natural features of the Chiricahua Mountains is Cochise Head. Sign in foreground outlines the rugged contour of the reclining warrior. *--photo by Richard Taylor*

Cochise Stronghold in the Dragoon Mountains on the west side of the Sulphur Springs Valley is the place the warchief chose to be buried, however, Legend has it that Cochise's last request was that his braves race their mounts up and down the canyon so that his grave would be indistinguishable from the surrounding matrix of the natural rock fortress.

In 1862 Apache depredations led to the establishment of Fort Bowie on the northern tip of the Chiricahuas. Lumber for its construction came from the first major canyon on the western slope south of the fort, dubbed "the pinery" by the soldiers who cut its timber. Pinery Canyon is still the name used today, and the trans-mountain road that passes through it has come to be known as the Pinery Canyon Road.

By 1878 Cochise had passed away and Geronimo had replaced him as warchief of the Chiricahua Apache. The federal government deemed it strategically advantageous to create another post in this mountain to subdue the Indians. A July thundershower poured down on newly-built Camp Supply and Lieutenant John A. Rucker surrendered his life in the ensuing flashflood while attempting to rescue a companion. Re - christened Camp Rucker after the drowned hero, only the name proved enduring. After two years the post was abandoned. The U.S. Forest Service preserves the site, but Rucker Canyon and Rucker Lake--a four acre trout fishery developed during the 1930's by CCC workers--provide the lure for most of today's visitors.

Peace finally came to the area when Geronimo was subdued in 1886. Tombstone photographer Camillas S. Fly was on hand to record the celebrated renegade's portrait for posterity. Within a few years entrepreneur Fly's knowledge of Southern Arizona led him back to the Chiricahua Mountains where he located a dance pavilion and a potato patch in one of the 9000 foot elevation meadows which dot the high country. Subsequently the spruce-cloaked peak south of the park became one of the Forest Service's first lookout points. The Fly Peak fire tower was in service until 1971, when it was removed as a nonconforming structure under provisions of the Wilderness Act.

Indians were not the only desperadoes that plagued area pioneers before the turn of the century. Miner John H. Galey located a claim on the eastern slope of the Chiricahuas in 1879 and within a year a boom town was born. The mine eventually failed but the town survived as a haven for bandits and rogues of every description from throughout the West. It was from Galeyville that part of Curly Bill's and John Ringo's gang sallied forth and hijacked a Mexican pack train in a remote canyon of the Peloncillo Mountains. Six mule skinners were slaughtered and left to rot at the scene. The Devil's Kitchen, site of the ambush, and Skeleton Canyon both draw their names from this grisly episode.

Galeyville citizens also made a living raiding valley ranches

The photographer Camillas S. Fly made history with his enduring portrait of Geronimo. In later life he spent a great deal of time in the Chiricahua Mountains. The mountain peak shown above is known today as Fly Peak.
--photo by Richard Taylor.

and herding the cattle to the well - watered and lushly-pastured high Chiricahuas for creative brand alteration. After the new brand had sufficiently cured, the stock were driven to the opposite side of the mountain for sale. The holding area naturally came to be known as Rustler Park, currently one of Cochise County's most popular recreation areas.

It was not until 1902 that the Forest Service acquired the Chiricahua and Peloncillo ranges. In 1910 the Dragoons were transferred to the jurisdiction of the Chiricahua National Forest. Early rangers worked hard to establish grazing permits and timber sales, and labored almost ceaselessly to create a network of trails, telephone lines, lookout posts and ranger stations through which they hoped to control fire and preserve resources for man's use. Long-time residents like Ben Erickson and Ralph Morrow, however, still recall 1917, the year fire swept the Chiricahuas and burnt the mountain end-to-end. Although fire is still a hazard today, increased man-power and such modern fire-fighting tools as helicopters tend to reduce the acreage lost to conflagration every year.

The 18,000 acre Chiricahua Wilderness Area came under the National Forest preservation system in 1931 through the efforts of Supervisor Fred Winn. No roads and no permanent structures are permitted in this unblemished specimen of Southern Arizona's unique forest environment. The southern-most stand of Engelmann spruce in North America grow here, and aspen-lined trails lead visitors to vista points over a mile above the Sulphur Springs Valley.

It is fitting that the last important name in the parade of historical placemarks in the Chiricahua Mountains commemorates this far-sighted individual. Winn Falls directs its 365 foot trajectory of water into the Cave Creek Canyon area on the range's east side. The cascade is visible from many points on the Cave Creek Spur Road and reaches its peak flow after the summer rainy season has charged the Wilderness Area above.

--by Richard Taylor

Rustler Park, named for the type of outlaws who used it for their work, is today one of the most popular spots in the Chiricahuas.
--photo by Richard Taylor.

Ore Brought Many To Dos Cabezas

This panoramic view of Dos Cabezas [*date unknown*] *shows the town in its glory, when it served the miners of the Mascot Camp, located a few miles above the town.*

--Harry Parks Collection.

During Spanish colonial days a number of small gold mines were worked in Dos Cabezas and at Gold Slope higher in the mountains. The miners "Gophered" --they followed an ore vein with as small a tunnel as a man could crawl through.

According to the Arizona Daily Star of May 5, 1880, Ewell Spring had 25 houses, a post office, a schoolhouse, a hotel and several saloons. The schoolhouse is still standing. In Cochise County's first election, that of 1882 the name had been changed to Dos Cabezas and it is listed as Precinct No. 19, John Blake was registering officer and 65 voted. The polls were at Corey's Store. In 1884 Dos Cabezas was Cochise County School District No. 15.

Although there is no trace of the Butterfield station left, the stage station built by the National Mail & Transportation Co. in 1884 can still be seen.

The first American mining claims were filed for claims near Dos Cabezas on Aug. 15, 1864 by Capt. T.T. Tidball, B.F. Bayley, John F. Burnette, Wm. Hampton, George Tyrell, Wm. A. Prentice, Christian Foster, B.B. Duncan, Jacob Hykiss, Chas. Staley, James H. Toole, Chas. Brown, Henry Schultz, J.W. Bain, James Donnell and John Gaines. All were soldiers from Ft. Bowie. Col. George Bowie, for whom Ft. Bowie was named and Capt. Charles Smith filed the Monteverde claim in the Dragoon Springs mountains on the same date.

John Casey filed a claim in 1878 which was worked by the Chicago & Arizona Copper Company. Thomas B. Chattman of Washington, D.C. was president. The other stockholders, Pablo Soto, W.F. Nichols and James Riggs were local men.

ORE FOUND

In 1883 John D. Emerseley discovered a valuable vein of ore. He refused to sell any stock or borrow any money and he worked alone packing ore up out of the shaft on his back and living on game and his garden produce until he sold enough ore to finance his mine. He died in 1907.

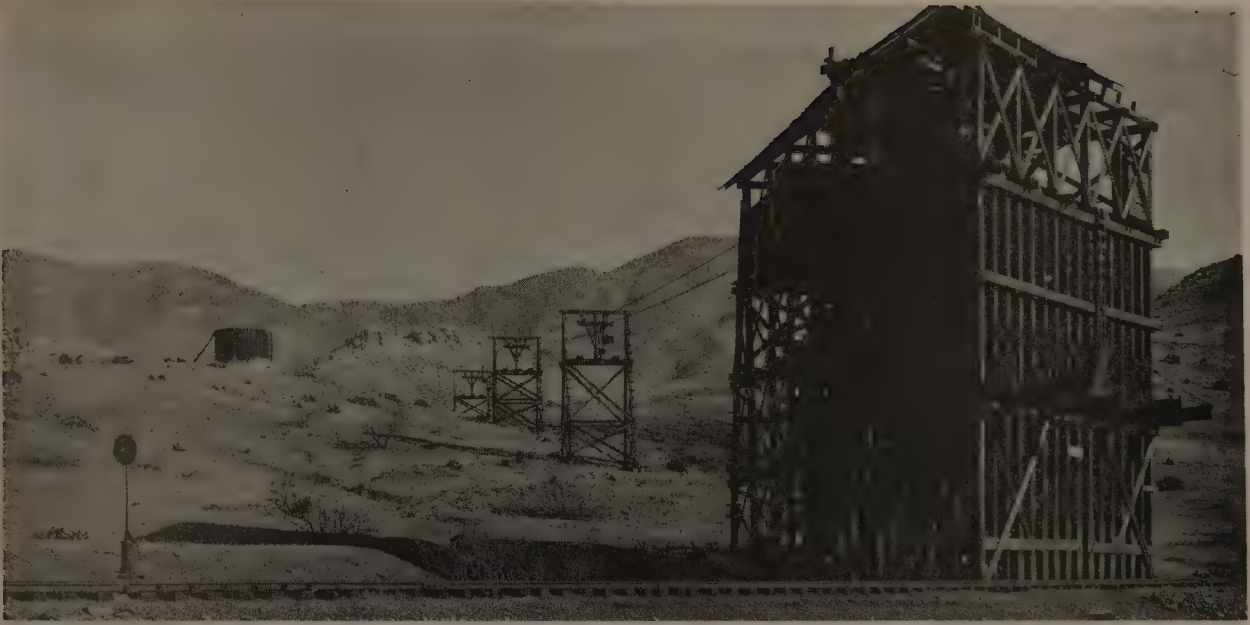
Emerseley's discovery attracted other prospectors and many claims were filed. Soon the Silver Cove, South Bear Cave and Greenhorn mines were making money. In 1899 the Oregon mine was operated by the Dos Cabezas Consolidated Mining Company. Their 1500 foot tunnel found ore that assayed 25% copper with $3.50 worth of gold and $2.50 worth of silver to the ton. The next year the Philadelphia Mining Company and Scanlon & Co. opened mines.

The Nebraska Gold Mining Co. worked in Gold Gulch and mining in Dos Cabezas was on a solid foundation.

In 1907, Thomas McCauley and a group of associates organized the Mascot Copper Co. with capital of $10 million. Stock was sold by national advertising. Investors were brought by special trains to view the mines and one trainload of people bought $300,000 worth of stock. Extensive building was done, a company store and boarding house were opened and the population of Dos Cabezas increased to more than 1,000 persons after the mines hired and put to work 400 miners.

A power plant, a crusher, a concentrator and 8,284 feet of aerial tram were built. The company had 50,000 stockholders, most of them working men and many of them lived at Dos Cabezas.

In 1915 the Mascot &



The Mascot and Western Railway commuted from Dos Cabezas and the mines at the Mascot and Elmo to Willcox. Pictured above is the train depot and tram terminal by which ore was brought to the railhead. The date of the photo is l922 or l923. *--Ray Wien Collection.*

Western railroad was built and 1,256 tons of ore was shipped. Still the company failed to pay dividends because too much money was going into the building. In 1920 the company was reorganized and each stockholder in the immediate area was reimbursed for the money he had paid for Mascot stock.

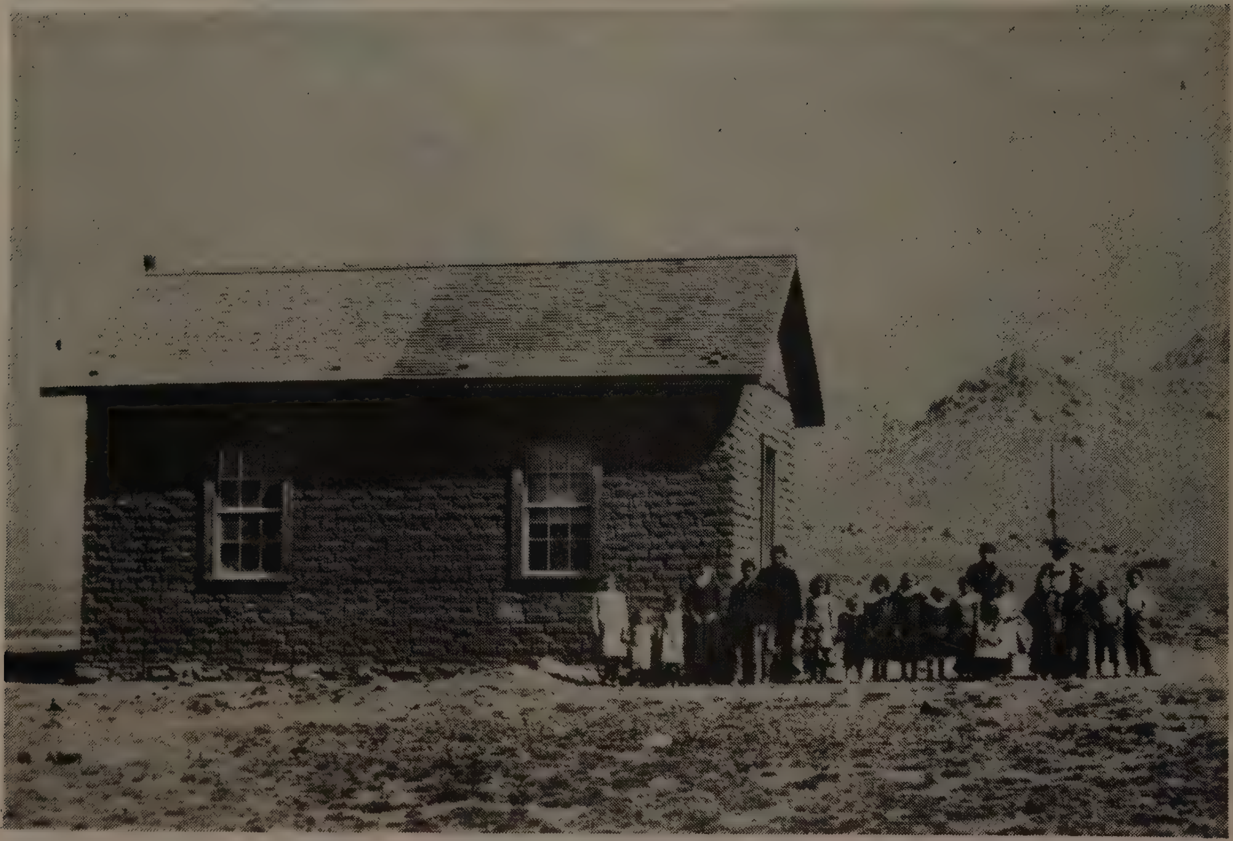
TRIAL BEGINS

This same year, New York, Michigan and California forbade the selling of Mascot stock within their borders. Then the company was indicted for fraud and tried in the old Tombstone courthouse. It was the biggest trial held there with enough witnesses, lawyers, experts and secretaries to fill every seat in the courtroom. Spectators had to stand. The trial lasted for weeks and was inconclusive. Mismanagement was proved, fraud was not, but Mascot closed.

The Juniper claim, filed in 1878 by John Casey was worked for a few years by the Gold Ridge Mining Corp. organized in 1917. During Spanish colonial days, in the 1880s and again during the 1930s much placering was done at Gold Slope. Enough miners were working at Mineral Park near Fowler & McGregors ore crushing mill to establish a voting precinct, No. 27 for several years.

--by Grace McCool

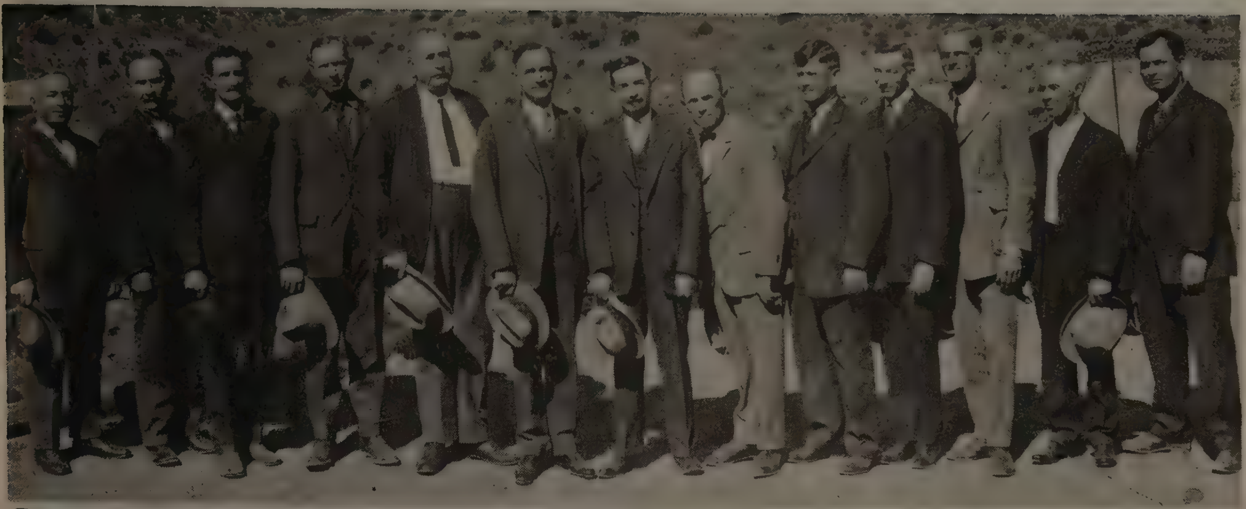
The Mascot was equipped with its own power plant. Pictured above is the building which housed the plant, located on the north side of the road which leads to the main Mascot settlement.
--Harry Parks Collection.



FIRST SCHOOL IN COCHISE COUNTY.--Pictured above is the Dos Cabezas School and its first class, 1880. Left to right are: Nettie Scow, Lulu Riggs, Florence Riggs, Mattie Riggs, Antonio Verdugo, Louis Verdugo, Katie Waughtal, Joe Schafer, Annie Schafer, Isabel Suary, Lizzie Schafer, Lupe Pacheco, Rilla Bradford, the teacher; Helen, a visitor; Lizzie Riggs, Johnnie Riggs, Helen's nurse, Phillip Waughtal, Ted Waughtal, Guadalupe Pacheco.

--Photo courtesy Milo Miskovich

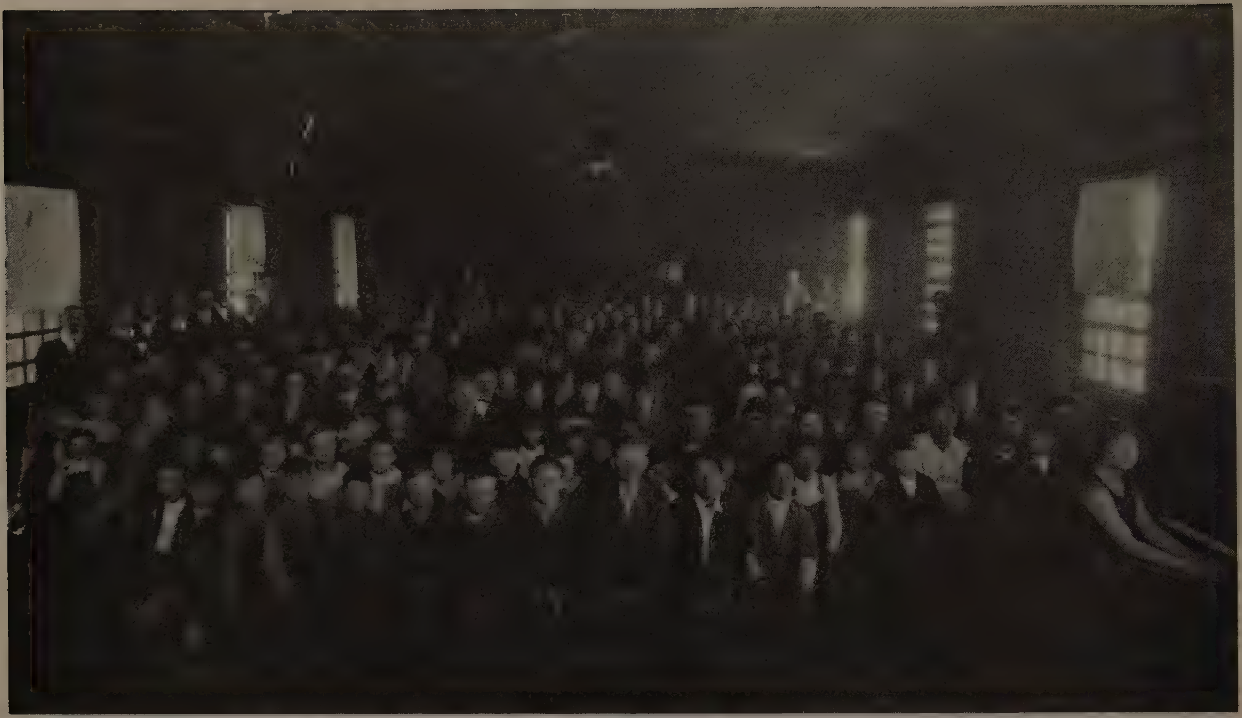
Pictured above is the original Dos Cabezas Schoolhouse as it looks today. There was also a school at the Mascot Camp which local children attended. In recent years another schoolhouse was built in Dos Cabezas. However, all Dos Cabezas children now attend school in Willcox. --Harry Parks Collection.



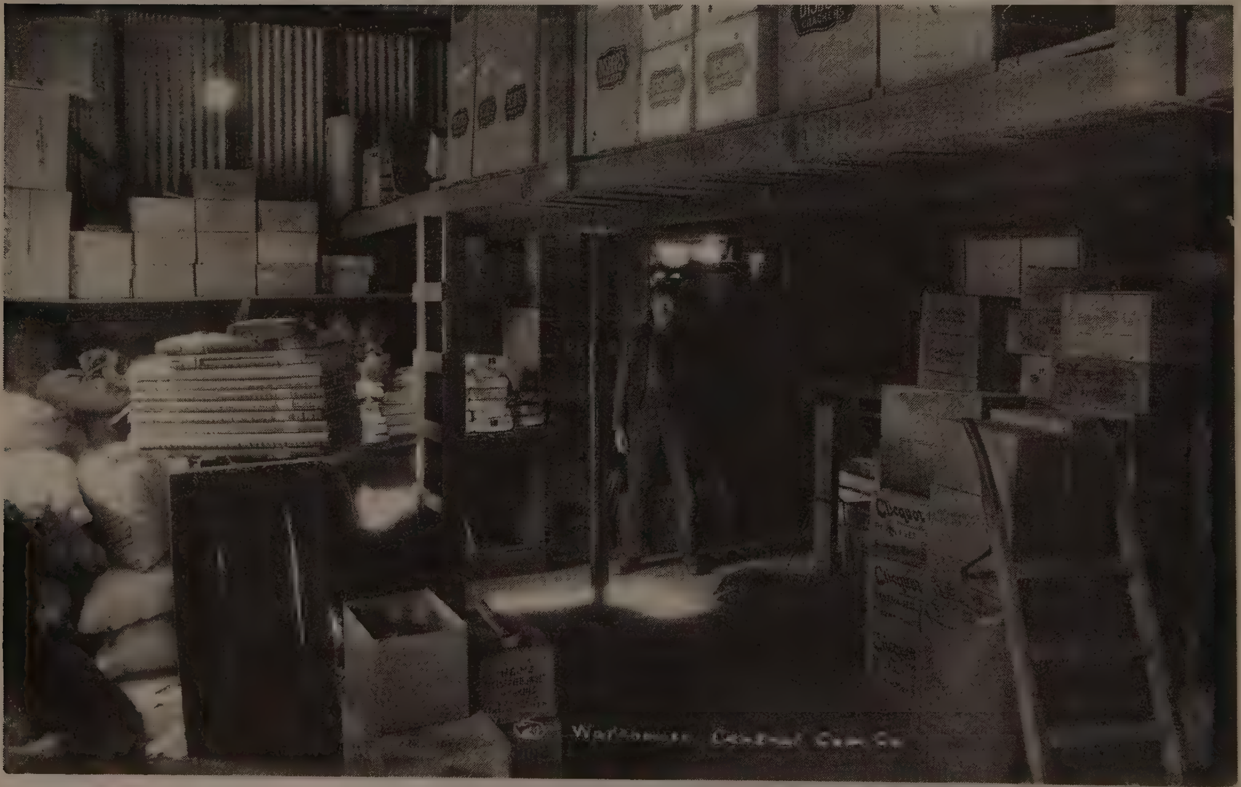
Pictured above are some of the employees of the Central Copper Company. In some cases the first name of a gentleman is not known, but all can be identified as to last name and position at the mine. [l-r]: Mr. Bryant, store owner; Mr. Clemens, bookkeeper; Harry Catlin, boss of Elmo Mine; Mr. Sherman, surveyor; Lon Haley, conductor; Mr. Penberthy, tramway boss; J.W. Prout, Jr., general manager; Mr. Woodard, bookkeeper; Mort Wien, mine boss; Mr. Kirby, office boss; Mr. Bartlett, asseyor; Hugh Trembath, diamond driller; Fred Clifford, master mechanic. --Ray Wien Collection.

The boarding house at the camp was the place where single men ate their meals. The woman in white in the background is Mrs. Upright, who ran the boarding house. --Ray Wien Collection.

The Mascot camp had its own schoolhouse for the children of the miners. Pictured on a snowy day at the camp are some of the little cherubs who attended the school. --Ray Wien Collection.

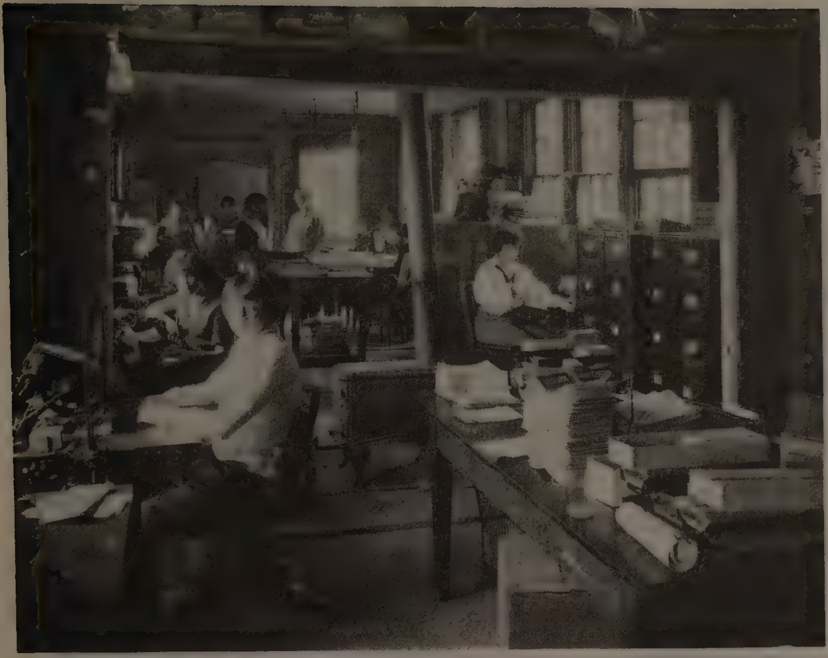


The Community Center at the Mascot was used for many purposes, even as a movie theater. In the photo above, however, there is probably a school play or production in progress since the Mascot school children and their teacher are seated in the front of the hall. *--Ray Wien Collection.*



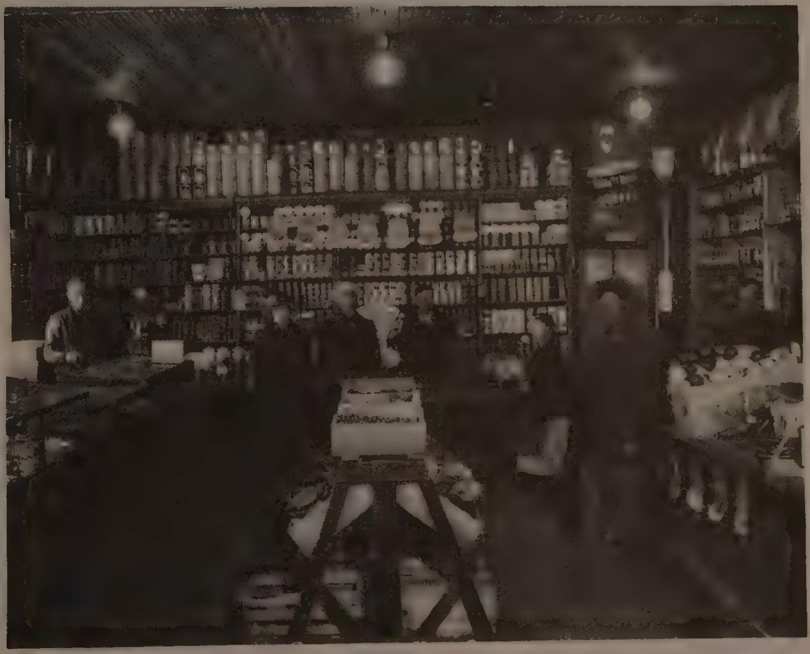
Pictured above is Mr. Matney in the Warehouse of the Central Copper Company. Note the bolts of fabric on the crate at the left of the picture.

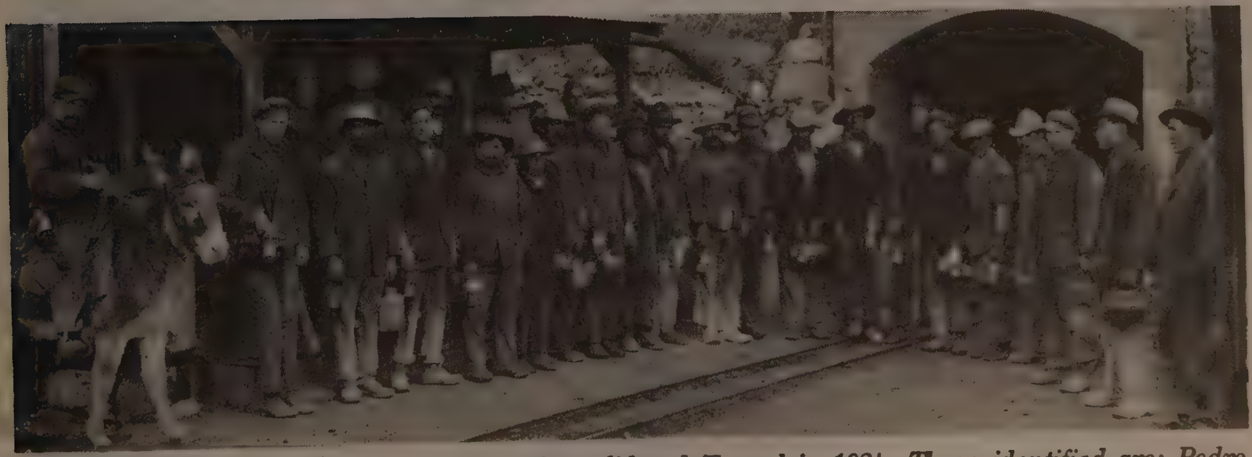
--Ray Wien Collection.



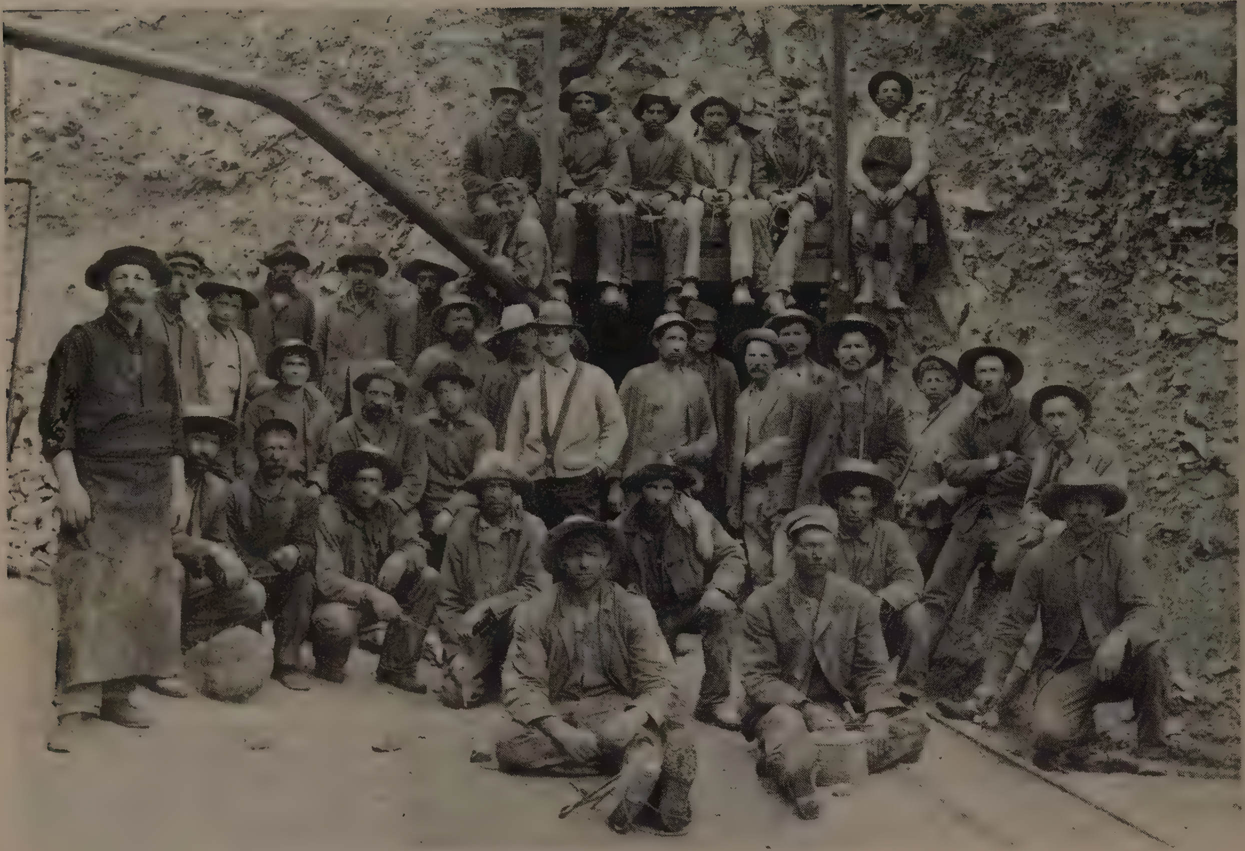
The interior of the office at the Central Copper Company is pictured at left. Office help was female, but dress was casual. Note the slacks worn by the woman on the right and the woman in the foreground.
--Ray Wien Collection.

The Central Mercantile Company at the Mascot Mine is pictured at right. Note the fresh produce in center bins and apples on counter at right. Pictured [l-r] are: Ted Quinn, Sylvia Collins, Ada Wien, Bill Tinney, Mrs. Upright, Chico Ortiz, and Mr. Matney.
--Ray Wien Collection.



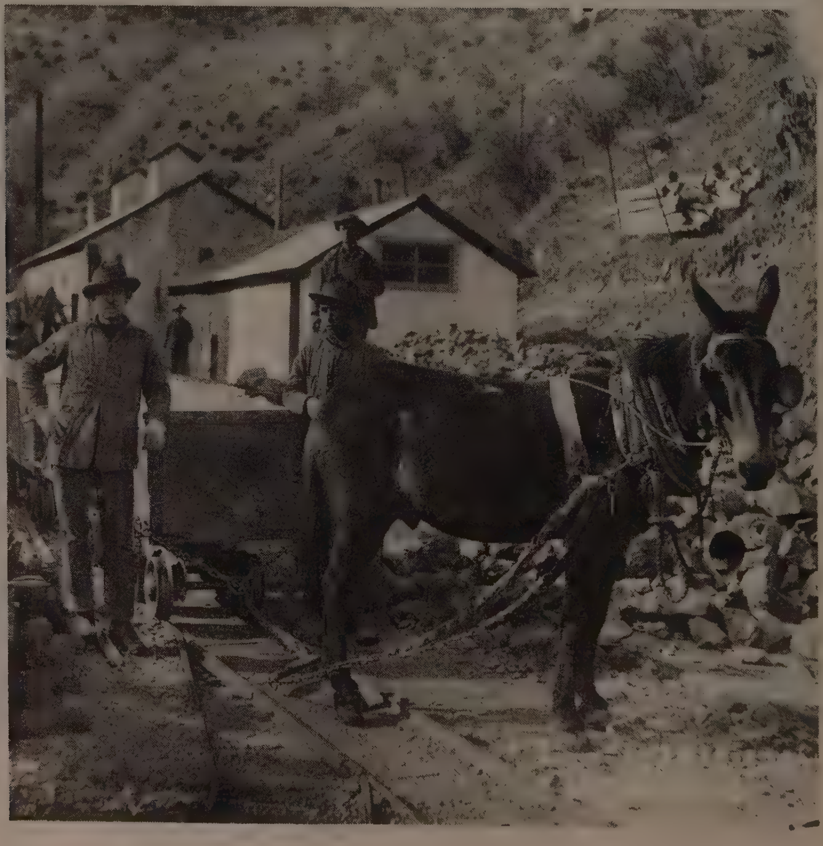


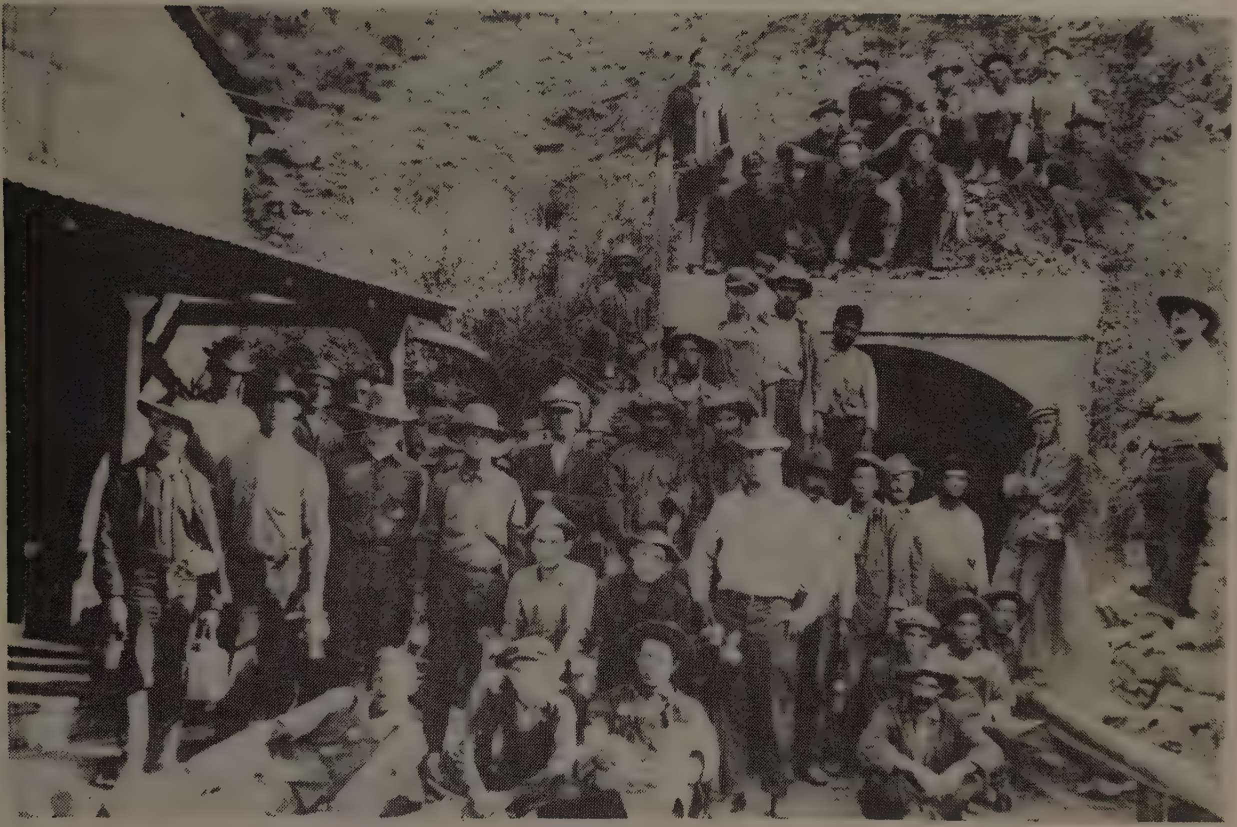
Miners posed for this photo outside the Consolidated Tunnel in 1924. Those identified are: Pedro Lopez, Rafael Redondo, Pat Gibbens, Jose Arteago, Jesus Lopez, Miguel Molina, Fernando Miranda, Serapio Lopez, Con Lopez, Manuel Miranda, and Bob Duke.
--Ray Wien Collection.



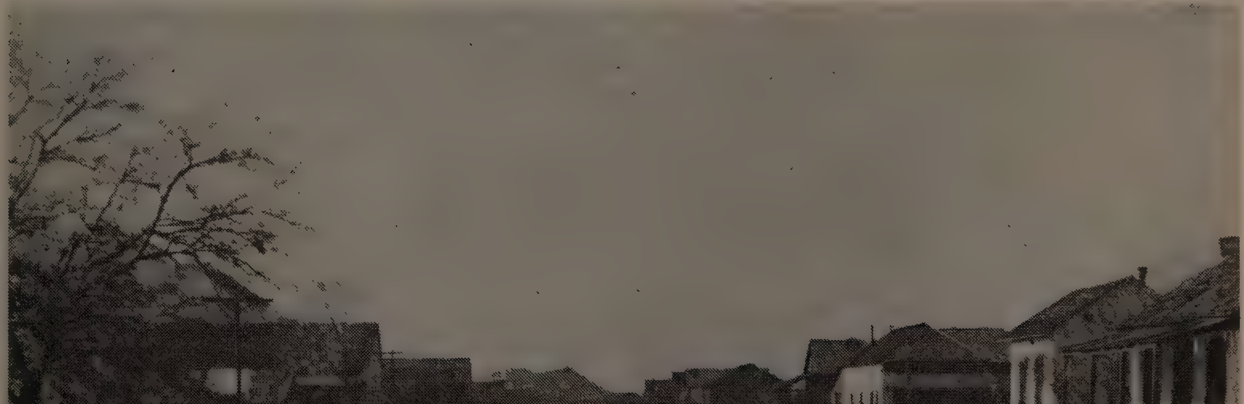
Miners outside the Mascot Tunnel in 1913. Notice hobnail boots and use of candles for lighting. Identified in photo are: Frank Snyder, Miles Standish, Alfred Miranda, Mort Wien, Shorty Seetlo, Con Lopez, and Top Mitchell. --Ray Wien Collection.

Ore was transported out of the mines by mule. Pictured above is "Jack" outside the Consolidated Tunnel. Note the coffee can hanging from his harness. There was a candle inside of it which provided light in the mine. --Ray Wien Collection.



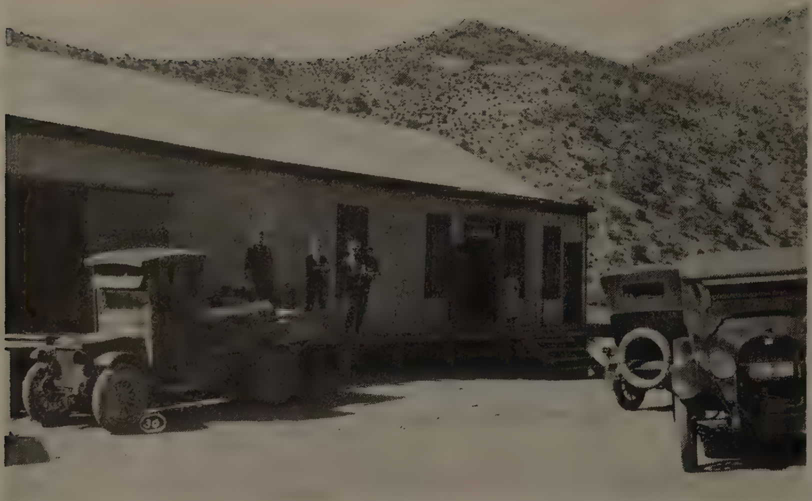


The above photo was taken outside the Mascot Tunnel in 1922 or 1923. Those who have been identified are as follows: Jack Wind, Ed Ditmars, Hugh Trembath, Pat Gibbens, Ed Tout, Charlie Clarkson, Mort Wien, Oscar Thomas, Burnie Gibbens and Crocky Moore. *--Ray Wien Collection.*



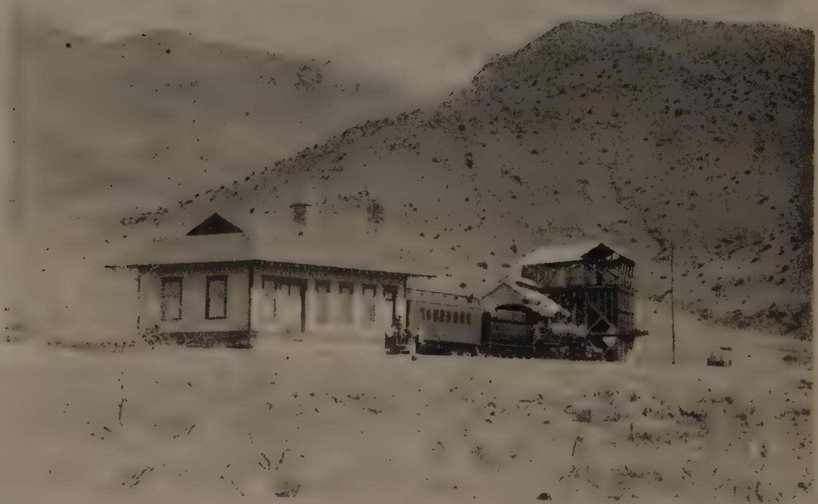
Dos Cabezas in 1924.

Photo courtesy Milo Miskovich



This photo, taken at the Mascot Camp, shows some of the now vintage autos which were then in use at the mine. Note the old pickup on the left.
--Ray Wien Collection.

This photo of the tramway connecting Dos Cabezas and the Mascot was taken around 1923.
--Ray Wien Collection.



This unusually well-lit shot of the interior of a mine was taken in 1925 or 1926. The man in the photo in Pat Gibbons.
--Ray Wien Collection.

Ada and Mort Wien posed for this photo at the ranch which is now the Ray Wien Ranch in Dos Cabezas. Mort and Ada were pioneers of the Dos Cabezas-Mascot area. *--Ray Wien Collection.*

The house pictured above is situated in the canyon near the Consolidated Tunnel at the Mascot Camp. This was one of the homes in the area which Mort and Ada Wien occupied.

--Ray Wien Collection.

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Indian History/3

Stage Stations Brought Indian Trouble

The Butterfield stage station on Apache Pass was built 300 feet from a spring which was the site of a battle fought in 1861 between California Volunteers and 600 Apaches who were lead by Mangas Colorado. Only the foundation is there today.

The Spaniards, who mined gold at Dos Cabezas during Spanish Colonial days, came into the area by way of Guadalupe Pass and the old mission at Cuquiarachi, 10 miles from present day Fronteras, Sonora.

Felix Aubry, who was a guide for Col. Philip St. George Cooke and his Mormon Battalion was familiar with this route through Guadalupe. It was also used by our first stageline, organized by James Birch in 1857 as the San Diego and San Antonio stageline.

Birch built no stations, but did build a corral and adobe quarters for his men at the San Simon Cienega. He employed 60 men and used 300 mules. Extra mules were herded along with the stages, but in rough country stages were not used. The passengers had to ride mules. There were two trips made each way each month and Silas St. John and Capt. "Big Foot" Wallace were in charge of the Arizona division.

Wallace received his name not because of his feet, but because he had killed a notorious Lipan Apache renegade by that name. The two young men carried food for the passengers on pack mules and cooked meals for them over campfires.

This line failed after Birch was drowned when his ship sank while he was enroute from San Diego to New York. It was replaced by the Butterfield Line with terminals in Memphis, Tenn., St. Louis and San Diego. Butterfield was merged with Overland Mail and operated from 1858 until March 2, 1862.

Coming west from El Paso, there was a station at Cooke's Spring, named for Col. Cooke of the Mormon Battalion, and at this station seven Butterfield employees were murdered by the Apache, Mangas Colorado, on July 1, 1861.

The next station was at Dinsmore Springs, named for a Butterfield official. It later became Inez Spring, named for Inez Gonzalez, who was rescued by the Boundary Survey Commission from Comancheros. The Soldier's farewell station east of Stein's Pass had a stout corral 70 feet by 40 feet. It had been built by Maj. Enoch Stein and his First Company of Dragoons, for whom our Dragoon Mountains were named. The station was named in memory of one of Maj. Stein's mounted men, who dashed out of his tent, shouted "Farewell everybody" and shot himself.

The station at Stein's was in a little hollow. It was only 13 miles from Stein's Pass station to the San Simon station, where an early-day traveller wrote they were delayed by a band of 25,000 sheep enroute to California.

--by Grace McCool

Butterfield Built Station In Apache Pass

From San Simon the stage road went on to Apache Pass. The station was built of heavy stones, laid up with adobe clay; really a corral with a porthole in each stall. A kitchen and sleeping quarters were in the southeast corner of the structure, a store-room well stocked with grain and ammunition was in the opposite corner.

The site of the Apache Pass station was in territory claimed by the Chiricahua band of Apaches. At that time they were divided into three groups. Cochise with his 700 friends and relatives usually lived in the Stronghold. Old Jack and his 600 called the Wonderland of Rocks home, while Esconolea and his 300 less war-like group camped in Goodwin Canyon.

The station offered the Apaches the chance to earn corn by cutting firewood and hay. They all moved as close to it as they could, making Apache Pass the largest settlement in what is now southeastern Arizona.

Although these Apaches were nominal friends of the Americans, it was an uneasy truce. Old Jack and his warriors and Cochise and his braves made most of their living raiding the Mexican ranches south of the border.

Only Esconolea and his group seemed to be satisfied with what game they could shoot and the acorns, pinyon nuts, mescal hearts, mesquite beans and other native foods gathered by the squaws.

--by Grace McCool

Shown here is an Apache warrior armed with bow and arrow.

Ewell Spring Site Of Apache Scare

The Butterfield-Overland station at Ewell Spring was at the foot of Apache Pass, but the site is presently the middle of a dry wash. It was named honoring the commanding officer at Ft. Buchanan, R.S. Ewell.

During the lifetime of Fort Bowie, after Butterfield no longer operated stages, it was used by another stage-line. The Apaches burned the station and killed the attendants. When a stage driven by Jeb Sands came into the station, there were blood and bodies all over the place.

He whipped up the horses and made a run for the fort, but found he was pursued by mounted Apaches who kept yelling something. The faster the stage traveled, rocking and threatening to upset, the faster the Apaches came on.

The screaming passengers, exhausted mules and driver and the Apaches all arrived at the fort together. The Apaches were shouting, ''Friend, friend,'' they were Al Sieber's Scouts who had been sent to investigate the outrage at the spring.

Dragoon Springs Station Site Of Massacre

Dragoon Springs, near Dragoon, was a place of great tragedy even before the Americans came. It was at the fork in the ''Trail of Tears'' where Mimbrenos Apaches from New Mexico and the Chiricahua band, when returning from raids into Mexico held wild, unrestrained victory celebrations that included the deaths, by torture, of a few prisoners brought along for that purpose.

For this reason, the station was built, in August of 1858, a quarter mile from the spring of heavy stones laid up with clay. It was 55 feet by 45 feet with only one gate. A 10-foot square office was walled off beside the gate and a storeroom of the same size was walled off at the opposite corner.

After the walls were up, the main crew moved on to the San Pedro to build an adobe station at the old Spanish Colonial town, Tres Alamos.

Three laborers, Guadalupe and Pablo Ramirez and Bonificio Mirando were left behind to finish the work on the station. They were directed by James Hughes, a native of Watertown, N.Y., who was the line blacksmith, James Laing, a Kentuckian and William Cunningham, an Iowa farm boy, both were carpenters. Silas St. John was in charge of the station.

Hughes had struck up a friendship with the laborers and was learning their language. On the night of Wednesday Sept. 8, he slept outside the station with them.

St. John, mindful of the money in the safe, slept in the office on his saddle blanket with his saddle for a pillow. Cunningham slept in the doorless storeroom. Laing stood the first watch. At midnight, St. John roused Guadalupe Ramirez and asked him stand the second watch. Laing then spread his blanket in the center room with the mules.

An hour later St. John was awakened by the sounds of blows and groans. He thought it was an Apache attack and sprang to his feet but was unable to grab the rifle from the boot on his saddle before he was set upon by the three laborers, who were armed with a chopping axe, a sledge hammer and a broad axe.

While he parried a blow aimed at his head, he took a blow in the hip, landed a blow on Mirando with his fist and was gashed across the palm. He knew he had to get the rifle out of the boot but was slashed across the forearm while pulling it free. He then swung the rifle like a club. However Guadalupe Ramirez servered his left arm with the chopping axe.

In the dark station, lighted only by stars shining through the unfinished roof, St. John fought for his life and succeeded in driving off his attackers. He then dropped the rifle and grabbed his pistol. When the gun fell they were upon him again. However he fired the pistol and they left the station.

The Butterfield man was in a desperate situation. He got a handkerchief, stick and stone tourniquet on the severed arm but could not stop the bleeding from the gashed hip. On hands and knees he dragged himself to his companions and found Hughes dead outside the station, his head crushed by the sledge. Laing was alive and conscious although his brains were visible through the gash in his skull. Cunningham had three deep skull gashes and moaned without ceasing for water.

There was no water in the station. The mules were frantically rearing and braying, terrified by the smell of blood. St. John simply could not make the trip to the spring. However he painfully climbed a stack of sacked grain and watched for the return of the outlaws or an attack by Apaches.

All day Thursday he watched there unable to move and tortured by the groans of his friends. That night the coyotes sneaked up to Hughes body but he drove them off with pistol shots. At midnight Cunningham died.

Friday was a nightmare. Swarms of blow-flies crawled and buzzed on the dead and dying while ravens and buzzards that had circled the station the day before swooped down and Laing still moaned feebly.

When darkness fell, lobo wolves made the night hideous with their howls. By Saturday St. John no longer drove them away, he had lapsed into unconsciousness.

At each Butterfield station it was the custom to raise and lower the American flag each morning and evening. When correspondent Archibald of the Memphis Avalanche newspaper and a companion saw no flag floating over the station on Sunday morning, they checked their saddle horses. While they were debating the reason for the silent station, a party of three wagons approached the station from the east.

Col. James Leach and Maj. N.H. Hutton, two experienced frontiersmen, were in the party. They hurried into the station and then did what they could for the dying Laing and dressed St. John's wounds. They buried Hughes and Cunningham in a double grave in the station yard as soon as they had sent one of their number on the fastest horse they had to Fort Buchanan for a surgeon.

He arrived five days later, but Laing had died. He cleanly amputated St. John's arm and 21 days later the station manager was back on the job. St. John lived to be a very old man and he was the first Indian agent to the Pima and Maricopa tribe where he got them started raising hay for the stage-lines.

The stageline with its fast service and two coaches each way per week was a success, fare was $200 from Memphis to San Francisco. Local passengers paid 10 cents per mile. Passengers had to pay for their own food and were allowed 40 pounds of baggage.

The next Butterfield station was at Tres Alamos. It has its story of Apache attack, but no trace of either the old town nor the station that is left.

The last station before Tucson was at Pantana and was called the Cienega station. It was used later by Tully and Ochoa and called Tullyville.

The stageline was abandoned at the beginning of the Civil War, but the building at Dragoon Springs remained and gave some shelter to people who used the road.

When the Union troops left the area to fight on the battle front, 100 mounted riflemen, led by Capt. Sherod Hunter, took all of Arizona for the Confederacy without firing a shot. In 1862 they were challenged by the California Column of Volunteers which moved into the state from the West. After one battle at Picacho, the Confederates withdrew.

At Dragoon Springs, Cochise and his Chiricahua Apaches caused Hunter more casualties than the Union troops had. When they approached the station, the Apaches were waiting for them. Four riflemen were killed and 35 mules and 20 horses captured.

Cochise didn't favor the Union, he just hated the Americans. Within a month, his tribesmen swarmed out of the shelter of the station and attacked a Union dispatch carrier, Johnny Jones. Ricardo Chavez, his guide and Sgt. Wheeling, riding as military escort, were killed. Jones had a fast horse and got away to the Rio Grande where he was taken into custody by the Confederates. However, he was able to pass his message by word of mouth to Canby. Ricardo is buried in the station yard.

In 1872, at the urging of Gen. O.O. Howard, Cochise buried the tomahawk, on his own terms. The stage station was on the reservation he chose and two traders, Rogers and Spence moved into it. They started selling trade whiskey to the Apaches that was a mixture of wood alcohol, cayenne pepper and tobacco juice and it sold for $10 a pint.

When Indian agent Tom Jeffords told them to stop it, they were knocked on the head by their two best customers, Pioncenay and Piarhel. Lt. Hendley and 28 troopers were sent to bring in the culprits and when they didn't find them Jeffords asked his trusted friend, the son of Cochise to do it. He delegated the chore to his younger brother, Tarjay, who brought in Piarhel dead and Pioncenay fatally wounded.

After Cochise died his band was moved to the San Carlos Reservation but Geronimo and other Apaches killed and looted along the stage road.

Col. Stone, for whom Stone Avenue in Tucson was named, operated a profitable small gold mine in Apache Pass somewhere near Helen's Dome within sight of Fort Bowie. One Oct. 6, 1886 he set out for Tucson with a fortune in gold in a chartered stagecoach guarded by four Cavalry troopers. With him in the coach were Mr. Kahler, a trusted friend, and a miner named Hinton. A shotgun guard rode with the driver.

As they neared Dragoon Springs they were set upon by a horde of mounted Apaches. The party made their stand 1500 feet east of the station. All of them were killed and their bodies stripped and mutilated.

--by Grace McCool

Kidnappings Caused Much Bloodshed

Cochise and his men stole 100 head of draft mules, enroute to the Santa Rita mine, that had been corraled for the night at the foot of the pass and killed, for no known reason, several parties of travellers using the road.

Ten years before, Cochise's father, Maco, had led the attack on the White wagon train in the Pass. ''The bodies were dreadfully mutilated and it was some time before they were discovered,'' according to Mrs. Johl Lawhorn, whose parents were early settlers on the Pass. ''There were women and children in the party. Their horses and goods were plundered and even their bodies stripped of clothing. The wagons were burned. All the families had good goose-down bedding and the Apaches slit the featherbeds, pillows and down quilts. The feathers swirled in every breeze above the grisly scene for months.''

The grave of these victims is 30 feet from the only cottonwood tree on the pass. It comes to the very edge of the road and a few scrubby mesquites grow in the center of it.''

Some of the younger married women were sold into slavery by the Apaches; the children were adopted into Apache families and four young girls were driven by their captors to Fronteras where they were offerred for sale.

The price was too high and when no sales were made they started back to the Pass with them, but in Guadalupe Canyon the wretched, abused girls were knocked in the head and left beside the trail. Their pitiful remains were buried there by Capt. Tevis in 1860.

This same year, Capt. Tevis, the Butterfield agent on the Pass, and a detail from Fort Buchanan, traced the children, bought them and returned them to relatives but all soon ran away and returned to their Apache foster parents. Of the captive women, only one survived and she was a pitiful wreck working as a flunky for a sheep-herder.

Anthony Elder was first station manager, but the Apaches were too much for him and he was replaced by Capt. James Tevis. Elder was tortured to death by Cochise and his band 10 years later. They caught him while he was prospecting.

Tevis had been a member of the Walker party and the Crabb expedition of filibusters. He became friends with Esconolea's group, a friendship that lasted as long as they both lived. After the Civil War, when the Butterfield station had been long closed, Tevis was captured by Cochise, who intended to burn him at the

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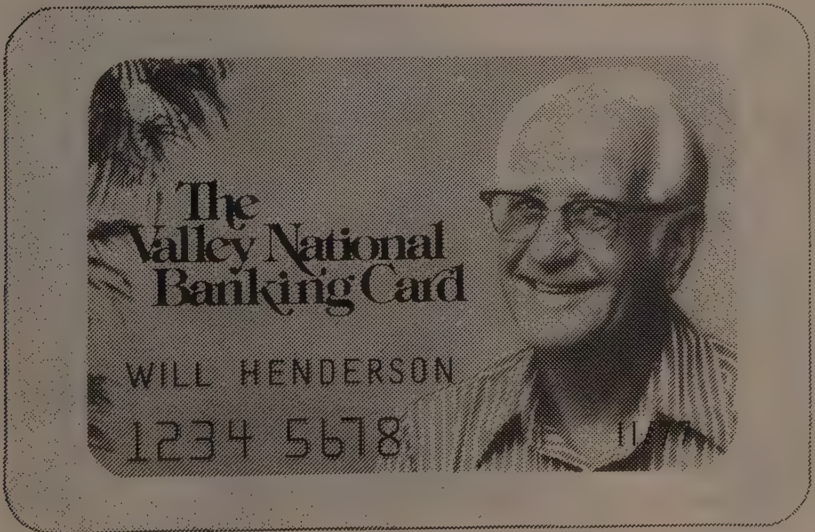

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stake. He was rescued by Esconolea and some of his men at great risk to themselves.

WARS CONTINUE

In 1859, Apaches fired on the stage coming into the station and killed the conductor. The driver was so frightened he refused to leave the safety of the station and Tevis had no choice except to drive the stage to Ewell Springs, through the Pass, which was the next station. He had never driven a stage.

Coming down the pass from the station, the road was steep, full of sharp turns, and rocks. It was the custom for the passengers to walk this mile, but they refused to do. All went well until they reached a sharp turn on a steep grade, Tevis put his foot on the brake whipped up the rear horses and held back the leaders and the stage overturned.

They got the stage upright, no one was hurt and the horses were alright. But one of the passengers declared he could drive better than that and he drove to Ewell Springs, then decided to keep on to Dragoon Springs station. Later Tevis found out he was a titled Englishman who owned a stage-coach of his own.

All those Apaches on Butterfield's doorstep were restless and Dr. Mitchell Steck, the roving Indian agent, really riled them. Steck wrote he was coming to visit his Indian friends with 14 wagon loads of gifts. Everyone started watching the road for his arrival. Then he showed up with only five wagons loaded with discarded British army uniforms and a little corn. Cochise didn't like red uniforms and there wasn't enough corn to go around.

In addition to that Steck traded the children out the gold nuggets they were playing jacks with in exchange for some cartridges that wouldn't fire.

From then things went from bad to worse and the worst was the day Lt. George Bascom showed up with an Army detail. He had been sent by Col. Pitcairn Morrison, Commander of Ft. Buchanan, to inquire about a span of mules and a child, Mickey Free, who belonged to a gambler-rancher named Ward. Bascom had managed to graduate from West Point after five years and the last in his class. He knew all the answers.

He at once arrested Cochise and six tribesmen and said he would hang them if they did not produce the child. By this time, Tevis had resigned and had been replaced by a man named Wallace. There were three other stage men and two prospectors at the station. Cochise said he did not have the child, but would need time to search for him. Wallace begged Bascom to let him handle it although Cochise escaped he hanged the six Apaches. Cochise then attacked the station and killed the six Americans by unspeakable tortures.

The troops managed to escape, led by Sgt. Reuben Bernard, who eventually became a General. Red-haired Mickey Free had been captured by the White Mountain Apaches. He was said to have been the orphan of settlers killed by Apaches, Ward had a Mexican common-law wife and Mickey could not and never learned to speak English. He died in 1912, a member of the White Mountain Apaches. Bascom deserted to the Confederacy and was killed during the Battle of Val Verde. Cochise made a vow that he would kill 100 Americans for each of his martyred friends. He did.

--by Grace McCool

Grave Of Chief Cochise Unmarked

The towering escarpments jut starkly from the anvil-flat floor of the Sulphur Springs Valley and reach up for more than a mile into the silent vastness of the desert sky.

A rocky fortress splitting the center of the 20-mile long Dragoon Mountains--this is the stronghold of Cochise.

Almost a hundred years have passed since the death of the great Apache chief, but the power of his prescence can still be sensed in the quiet of the whispering wind.

Somewhere high in these lonely battlements his remains still lie in a hidden cave--the location still unknown.

The mystery of his grave may never be solved.

This is what his warriors planned at dawn on that day in June 1874 when they, and the one white man he trusted, secretly entombed him in a spot where he would rest for the ages, undisturbed by any man.

Born in the Dragoons, as was his father before him, Cochise was the hereditary leader of the Chiricahua Apaches who, along with the Mimbres or Warm Springs Apaches led by Mangas Colorado, were the two great tribes of the Apache nation of the southwestern United States in the early 1800's.

Savage and ruthless, their ancient enemies were the Mexicans, and blood ran freely on the desert sands.

The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo in 1848, ending the war between the United States and Mexico, and the Gadsden Purchase in 1853, changed the entire country.

The white men started to arrive, and this country had promised Mexico they would keep the Indians from raiding into Mexican territory. But nobody told the Indians.

Cochise, with a wisdom unrecognized by the white man, foresaw the future and the opening of the great Southwest as more and more white men arrived.

He vowed that his tribe of Chiricahuas would be at peace with the Americans.

A man of deep and sensitive honor, he kept his vow, until that day in 1860, when the blundering stupidity of a rash and arrogant Army officer left Cochise humiliated, then betrayed.

Six of his people who were held as hostages were hung before his eyes in an infamous incident at Apache Pass, high in the Chiricahua Mountains.

His revenge was swift and horrible.

For 12 long years, from 1860 until 1872, the terror of Cochise and his Chiricahua Apaches seared southeastern Arizona with a vengence unsurpassed.

His warrior's raids extended deep into Mexico and to the

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adobe walls of a tiny mud village called Tucson. And always, they returned to his stronghold in the Dragoons.

A haven where they rested from battle and where, with but a few warriors placed at the narrow entrances, they could--they did--hold off the entire might of the United States Cavalry.

The singular courage and bravery of one white man, Thomas J. Jeffords, was the catalyst that eventually brought peace to the southwestern frontier.

On a summer day unrecorded in histroy, he entered the stronghold alone and asked to meet with Cochise. The Apache leader, impressed with Jeffords' courage, acceded to his request that his warriors refrain from attacking the mail riders.

That one meeting developed into a deep and lasting friendship between the two men--one red, the other white. In 1872, Jeffords' relationship with Cochise brought about the meeting with Army Gen. Oliver Otis Howard that ended with Cochise agreeing to end the fighting against the whites.

One of the concessions made by Howard was that the Chiricahua Apaches would be allowed to remain in the land where they were born, and the Chiricahua Reservation was formed.

Until his death two years later, Cochise kept his vow of peace with the Americans, even when he and his warriors were falsely accused of raids and massacres that were made by other tribes.

When he died, Jeffords was the only white man who knew the secret of his grave. And he kept the secret for 40 years. When he died on Feb. 18, 1914, at his ranch at Owls Head, northwest of Tucson, the secret remained with him.

Jeffords is buried in Tucson's Evergreen Cemetery.

In 1876, the Army herded the remains of the Chiricahua Apaches and moved them to the San Carlos Indian Reservation.

On July 2, 1908, their reservation which had become the Dragoon National Forest, was brought into the Coronado National Forest where it remains to this day.

In 1881, the people of Arizona, to show their respect for the Apache warrior whose word was his honor, named the newly formed county Cochise, the only county in Arizona named after an individual Indian.

Last year, more than 10,000 visitors came to the stronghold to see the fortress where the mighty Apache leader and his band of warriors held off a nation.

And at night, when the moon is full and the gentle wind is sighing through the rocks, if you listen, closely, you can hear the sounds of the past, faint but unmistakable.

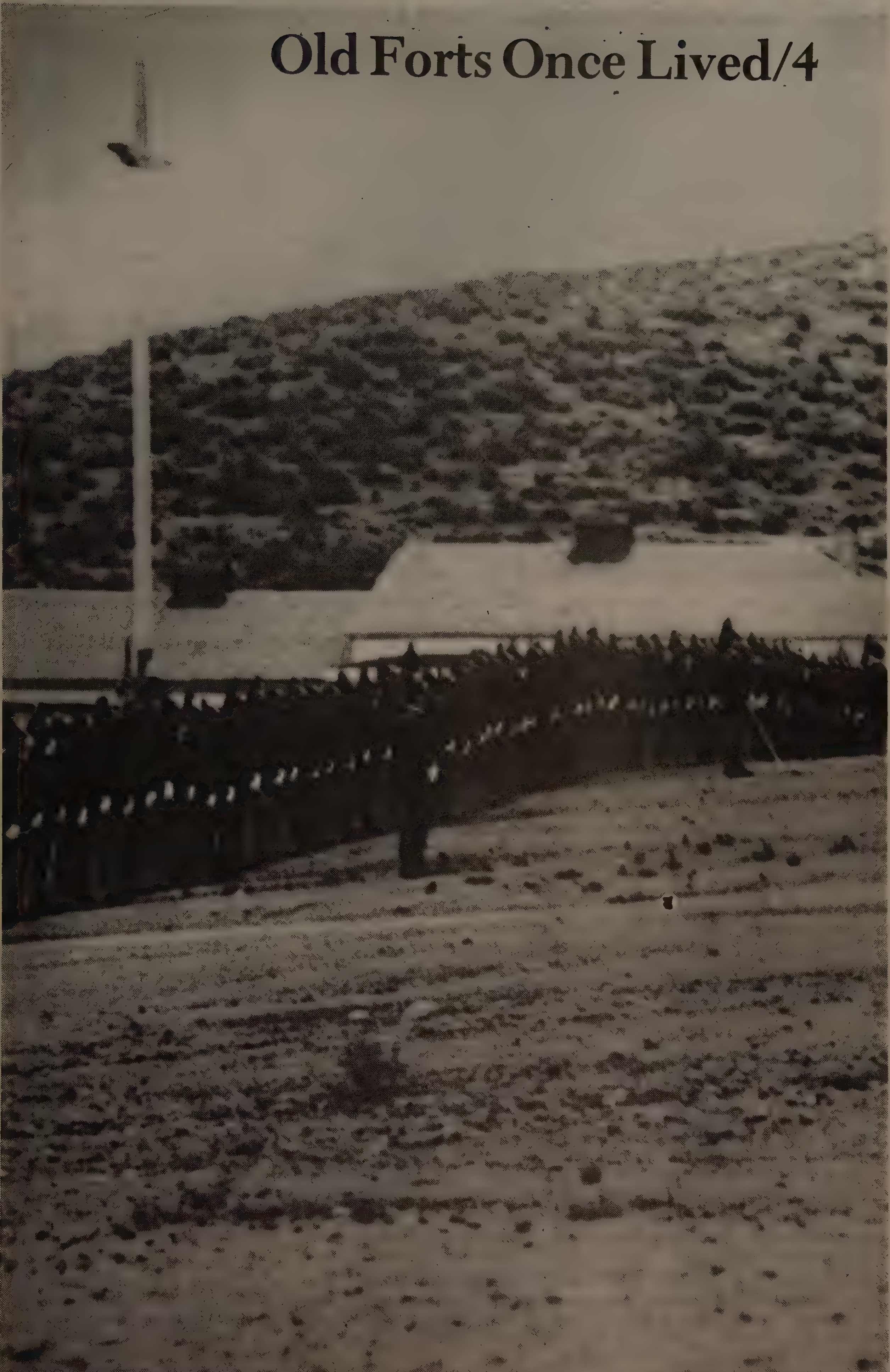
It is then you can feel the presence of the man called Cochise.

--by Grace McCool

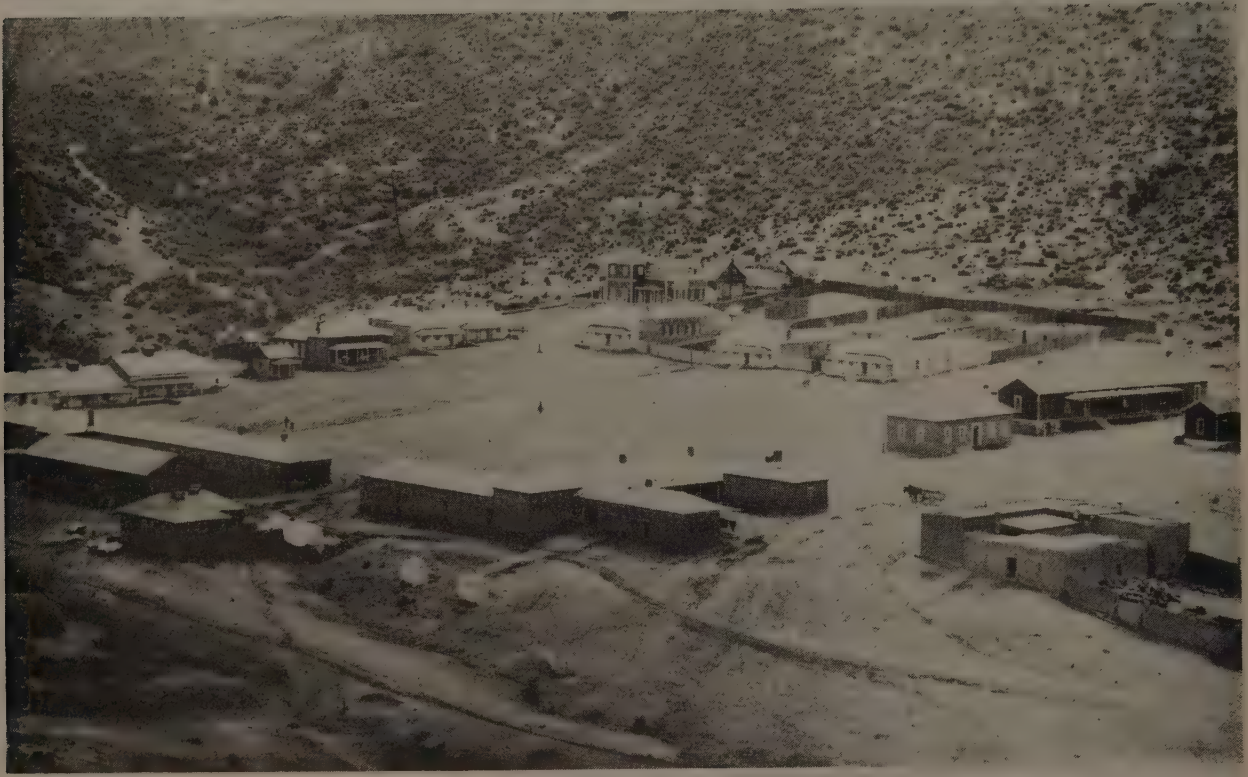
Shown above is the site of the Tom Jeffords Trading post. It was located at the mouth of Pinery Canyon in the Chiricahua Mountains.

--Harry Parks Collection.

Old Forts Once Lived/4



Fort Bowie Created To Protect Settlers



Pictured above is Ft. Bowie as it appeared in 1885. Note the post trader's store in the lower right and the pretentious commanding officer's quarters in upper center of photo.

--photo courtesy Ft. Bowie.

Fort Bowie is the story of Tom Jeffords and one-armed Gen. O. O. Howard riding into Cochise's stronghold to negotiate a lasting peace. It is the story of Lt. John Rucker trying to rescue a fellow officer from drowning in a flooded canyon and dying in the attempt. It is a determined Gen. George Crook struggling to cover a vast territory with a handful of men and an embittered Geronimo fighting against hopeless odds. Fort Bowie is the story of a band of Indians who tried to stop the soldiers of the U.S. Army--the vanguard of an alien civilization.

The Spaniards called it Puerto del Dado, the Pass of Chance. They might better have named it Puerto de la Muerte, the Pass of Death. Through the years Apache Pass and Fort Bowie were the focal point of military operations against the Chiricahua Apaches for control of the region. This bitter struggle determined the pattern of frontier development in the Far Southwest. And it was not until the defeat of Geronimo that Anglo-American settlement spread unhampered throughout the region.

Because the spring located here was an unfailing source of water, Apache Pass drew a long procession of Indians, emigrants, prospectors, and soldiers. The Chiricahua Apaches made this territory their homeland early in the 16th century--relative late-comers. Their economy combined hunting and gathering of wild foods with raiding against neighboring peoples. They had acquired horses from the Spaniards and soon developed a highly mobile guerrilla warfare to protect their homeland from outsiders.

But protection proved impossible. In the middle of the 19th century, the Anglo-American frontier moved rapidly westward, and demands for mail and transportation connections with California grew louder. In September 1857 the Postmaster-General awarded an overland mail contract to John Butterfield. The route ran from St. Louis through the Southwest to San Francisco. A reliable source of water in Apache Pass made it a logical place for a stage station, even though it was located in the heart of Chiricahua Apache country. The critical Apache Pass Station was constructed in the valley west of the spring in 1858.

For 2½ years the Apaches, led by Cochise, allowed the Butterfield stage to run through Apache Pass. The Bascom Affair brought an end to peace, however, and bloody warfare raged in the Southwest intermittently for the next 25 years.

It all began in October 1860, when a band of Apaches raided the ranch of John Ward, stole some stock, and kidnapped the son of a Mexican woman who lived with Ward. Ward believed that Cochise had led the raiders and demanded that the military authorities confront Cochise, recover his stock, and secure the return of the boy. In February 1861, 54 men led by 2d Lt. George Bascom entered

Apache Pass in search of Cochise.

They stopped at the Butterfield station in Apache Pass, watered their horses, and told the station keeper that they were on a routine patrol to the Rio Grande. The troops rode on and made camp about a mile from the station. Cochise, who had seen all this from the surrounding hills, came to the station to find out what was happening.

The Butterfield people told him all they knew, and Cochise, unaware that Bascom was actually looking for him, approached the soldiers' camp, and voluntarily entered Bascom's tent to talk with him.

In the tent Bascom accused Cochise of stealing Ward's property and kidnapping the boy. Cochise was furious. He slashed the wall of the tent with his knife and leaped out. In the confusion of his exit Cochise fled to safety despite a cordon of soldiers around the tent. His companions were not so lucky; all of them were captured and hanged.

Sporadic fighting bloodied Apache Pass for about 2 weeks, but with the approach of mounted infantry and dragoons the Apaches disappeared. Nothing had been settled and 19 people were dead. This was the beginning of open warfare that raged between white man and Apache for the next 12 years.

The fighting between the settlers and Apaches created a nerve-wracking way of life. Conditions worsened with the advent of the Civil War and the abandonment of many southwest military forts. The Confederates had a great interest in the California goldfields and their best route of invasion lay through Apache Pass. To meet the Confederate threat, Brig. Gen. James H. Carleton led 1,800 California volunteers toward the Rio Grande. On July 15, 1862, the vanguard of the California column entered Apache Pass and was ambushed by several hundred Apaches. Only the use of howitzers drove the Indians from the springs. During the night, however, they returned and the battle had to be fought over again. Carleton realized that if Apache Pass were to remain open it must be fortified.

Close-up of post commander's quarters, taken in 1885. Major McGregor, post commander, is standing in rear, second from right. *--photo courtesy Ft. Bowie.*

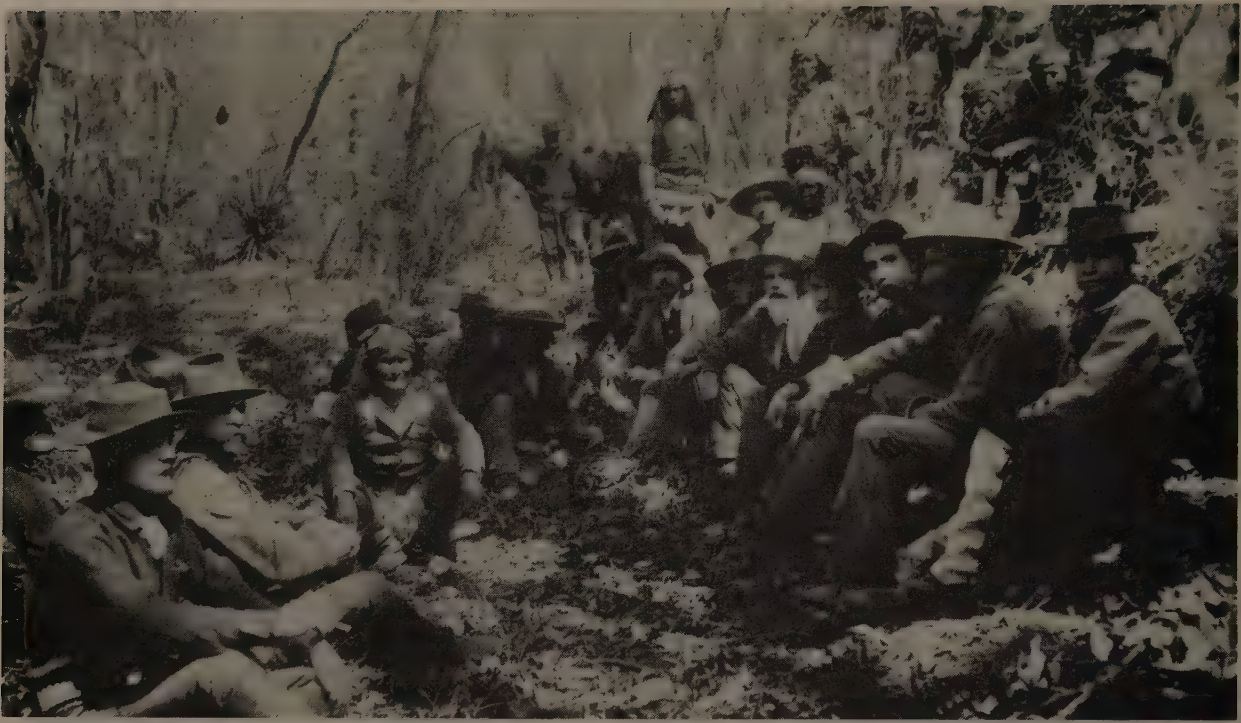
Fort Bowie was established within the year. Life there in the early years had little to recommend it. The post was isolated, the quarters rude, the food bad, and sickness prevalent. If the Indians were seldom seen, they were nonetheless present, and vigilance was necessary.

Finally Cochise made peace in 1872 after Gen. Oliver O. Howard agreed to terms that Cochise believed to be in the best interests of his people. They were given a reservation that covered about 3,000 square miles in southeastern Arizona and included their traditional homeland. The cause of peace was further aided by the appointment of Tom Jeffords--a former army scout who had won the Apaches' confidence--as the Interior Department's agent for the Chiricahua tribe.

Although treaty promises appeared to offer a secure way of life to the Chiricahuas, life on the reservation was far from ideal. From the beginning Jeffords received little support from the Indian Bureau. Sometimes he had to buy supplies for the Indians with his own money. And he disagreed with the Bureau's plans of forcing the Indians to give up their traditional nomadic ways to become farmers. These measures kindled flames of revolt despite the hard work of Cochise and Jeffords to maintain control and peace. Many discontented Indians periodically escaped the reservation, adding to the growing distrust between the Indians and the settlers. After Cochise's death in 1874 and Jeffords' removal as agent in 1876, dissatisfaction and animosity grew rapidly. Hoping to quell a revolt, the Government abolished the Chiricahua Reservation and moved everyone to the San Carlos Reservation. But several bands led by Geronimo, Juh, and Naiche fled to the Sierra Madre Mountains of northern Mexico and began to terrorize the border region.

Fort Bowie served as the nerve center for the punishing military campaigns against the hostile Chiricahuas. Gen. George Crook, commander of the Department of Arizona, directed the pursuit of Indians, led by the wily and determined Geronimo. This small band of Apaches eluded the U.S. Army for ten years. In the end, the succumbed only when their own kindred--the Apache Scouts--were mobilized against them.

Only once during these years



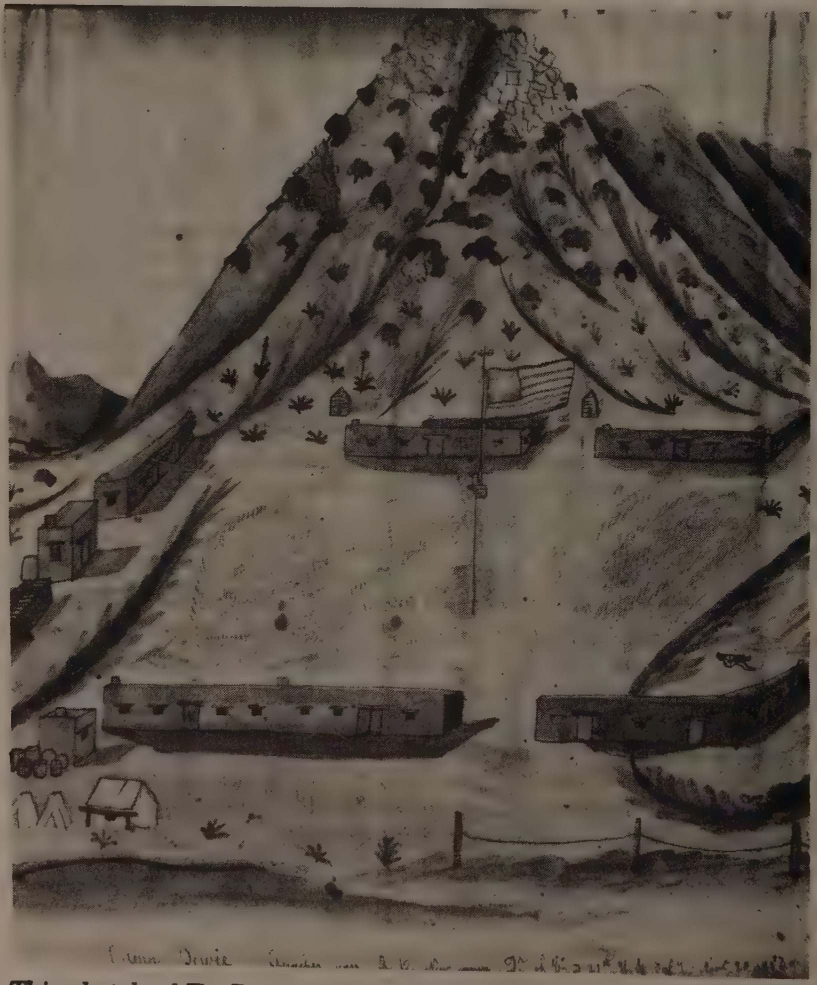
Pictured above is an historic meeting between Geronimo and General Crook, in March of 1886. Geronimo is seated in the sun in left center of photo, while General Crook is second from right in white hat.

--photo courtesy Ft. Bowie.

did Geronimo and 325 of his men return to the San Carlos Reservation. They were convinced that they were no longer safe once the Mexicans and Americans began to cooperate in their struggles against the Indians. After two years, life on the reservation began to chafe. In May 1885 Geronimo led 137 men back into Mexico. Crook, aided by the Apache scouts, followed the band, and in March 1886, Geronimo surrendered. But he quickly escaped and fled back into Mexico.

Crook then asked to be relieved, and Gen. Nelson A. Miles assumed command. He continued the grueling campaigns and forced the final surrender of the remaining Indians in September 1886. All the Chiricahuas, both scouts and hostiles, were shipped to forts in Florida and Alabama, and finally settled at Fort Sill, Okla., where their way of life withered away in an alien setting.

The Southwest Indian Wars ended with the Anglo-American in command. Fort Bowie had outlived its purpose and was officially abandoned on October 17, 1894.



This sketch of Ft. Bowie was made in 1869, about a year after the building of the second fort.

--photo courtesy Ft. Bowie.

The photo above shows the soldiers from Fort Bowie escorting Geronimo and his renegades to the train station at Bowie, in September of 1886. From Bowie, the Apaches were taken to Florida.
--photo courtesy Ft. Bowie.

Owen Wister, well known as the author of "The Virginian" was a guest at Fort Bowie in 1893 when the post trader's burned. Equipped with a camera, Wister snapped this shot of the efforts to extinguish the fire.
--photo courtesy Ft. Bowie.

Fort Thomas Patrolled Reservation

Camp Thomas was founded after the infamous Camp Grant Massacre in 1872 when Gen. O.O. Howard ordered the Camp Grant Apache Reservation moved to the Gila and named San Carlos.

The new camp was named for Maj. Gen. George H. Thomas. It was 32 miles from the new reservation and was occupied Jan. 1, 1876. All supplies for the reservation were routed through the camp and freighting from Willcox To Camp Thomas was big business.

Only 27, shingle-roof, adobe buildings were built. There was no plumbing. The camp was hot in summer but the troops were usually on patrol or camped on Mt. Graham. There is no trace of the old camp left; a few years ago it was just dozed out of the way. It was just outside the present town, Fort Thomas, on both sides of the track.

The abandoned old cemetery is all that is left of this old camp. It is on a narrow mesa overlooking the Gila Valley and a mile from the present town. The sandy road to it is lined with ruined buildings and even a few graves. The 40 military burials of soldiers who died at the fort were moved to Arlington National Cemetery in 1892, when the fort was deactivated. The graves of civilians remain.

Present day Fort Thomas used to be called Maxey and it was the stepchild of the fort. It was a lively, free-wheeling town built on the ranch of John B. Collins, who had an extensive cattle ranch extending up to Bear Springs in the nearby mountains. He named it honoring his old Civil War commander, Maj. Gen. Samuel B. Maxey.

The Apache Reservation was quiet enough and the Indians there were starting to farm and raise cattle until the Chiricahua Agency at Dragoon Springs was closed and these Indians added to the Arivaipa band. Al Sieber was hired as chief of scouts at a salary of $1,000 per year. Soon 612 Coyotero Apaches, 856 Tonto Apaches, 501 Mohave Apaches and some Yuma and Havasupais Indians also were herded onto the reservation along with 1,739 White Mountain tribesmen who had long been friendly to the Americans and feared the Chiricahua band.

The reservation was a dynamite keg, but order was kept by only a handful of tribal police under Bob Stirling, a fearless American. A count of those present was made each week at the time they were issued corn, coffee, flour and beef on the hoof. A few industrious and thrify Indians farmed, gathered native foods or made horse-hair ropes and

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bridles which found a ready sale. Once a year each received one blanket, a change of clothing for the men and yardage, thread and needles for the women.

The Western artist, Frederick Remington, spent several months at Camp Thomas sketching and riding with the troops. He wrote that they spent much of their time on patrols and rode at break-neck speed in the nearby Pinaleno Mountains, scorning the safer paths. Noon Camp, Hospital Falt, Soldier Creek, Merijilda Canyon, named for scout Merijilda Gryalva, Deadman Canyon, Heliograph Tower, at 10,028 feet (presently the fire lookout tower) were all named by the soldiers.

Tully & Ochoa had the beef contract for 1879 and it called for 225 cattle each week. Supplying these was big business. Dignified and formal Col. Henry Clay Hooker, owner of the Sierra Bonita Ranch, and Curly Bill Broscius and his jovial, uninhibited friends were serious competitors. Curly Bill could buy cattle for as little as $4 a head in Mexico, shot-gun them across the border without paying the legal duty of $8 and deliver them at Ft. Thomas cheaper than the colonel could raise them on his ranch only 20 miles away.

Newman Phineas Clanton, a Bell Plaine, Iowa farmer, who had served in the same outfits as Collins during the Civil War, sold his farm and moved his ailing wife, Mary, daughter Mary and sons Phin, Ike and Billy to Maxey where he built and operated a frontier hotel. But Mrs. Clanton died and was buried in the Fort Thomas cemetery, near her friend Julia Ming. Mary married and moved to Tucson; Clanton joined a group of middle-aged men and homesteaded in the Animas Valley in New Mexico near Curly Bill's Roofless 'Dobe ranch. Phin filed a homestead entry on Blue River and Ike and young Billy moved down to Brown Canyon in the Huachuca Mountains.

Typical of the goings-on in Maxey was the story told by Billy Breakenridge of the time Curly Bill, taking a nap on a pool table, woke up to see the bartender bring in a bucket of water and raise a dipperful to his lips, "Don't drink that, man, it's poison," the border-jumper roared and then raised his pistol and shot the dipper out of his hand. It wasn't so funny when a cowboy came in and reported his bullet had gone through the plank wall and drilled his saddle horse dead center. It had been at the hitching rail.

Another day Breakenridge reported Joe Hill, Johnny Ringo, Curly Bill, Tom Norris, Old Man Hughes and his son Jim had brought 400 head of cattle across the line. They grazed them on the open range long enough for them to put back the tallow they had lost on the fast trip through Guadalupe Pass, where they had had a running battle with hi-jackers. They had sold them at a very good profit and were celebrating with a poker game in Jack O'Neal's saloon.

This was payday at Collin's Bear Spring ranch and Dick Lloyd, a Texan who rode for him, was getting rid of his money as fast as he could in Ed Mann's saloon. The aging cowboy fancied Mann had insulted him and took a shot at him, barely creasing him. Mann was as drunk as his customer and fell to the floor. Lloyd assumed he was dead and decided he had better light a shuck for Texas.

The pony that he had ridden into town not only was slow but belonged to Collins. He better not steal him, Collins wouldn't like it. He threw down on the hostler at O'Neal's saloon and ordered him to saddle the fastest horse in the corral. This happened to be Joe Hill's finest. Once in the saddle, he rode through the general store, shooting at the crockery and tinware, then into O'Neal's saloon, whooping like a Comanche and knocking the swinging doors from the hinges. When Joe Hill saw him on his prized horse, he shot him.

--by Grace McCool

The life of a soldier in an Arizona fort was not very pleasant. He had to survive summers in his wool uniform, and a payday of $13 per month. *--photo courtesy Ft. Bowie.*

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Of Farmers and Ranchers/5

Cattle History Of The Willcox Area

Before the Civil War, Butterfield stages rumbled past Willcox, which linked East and Pacific coasts and then for a time, U.S. troops chased Apaches and gave a measure of protection to the Overland Trail. They were based at Fort Bowie for 35 years and the old Fort is being restored.

Long, before any Europeans had visited the area, Indians lived here and left behind pictographs in the Winchester mountains, the Circle I Hills and the Gilman Hills. Were they art work or records written on stone?

After the cultured Indians were gone, Spaniards thirsting for gold prospected in our mountains and established a mining camp at Dos Cabezas. At the same time the war-like Apaches came from the buffalo plains, eventually drove out the Spaniards and later the Mexican settlers.

With the discovery of gold in California, thousands of goldseekers came trudging on foot, on horseback and by wagon train through the area enroute to the gold fields. The Butterfield-Overland stageline was established in 1857, replacing the earlier San Diego and San Antonio stageline. Hundreds of herds of cattle were driven over the stage road to market in California.

In 1853, the area was obtained from Mexico by the Gadsden Purchase. At that time, Arizona and New Mexico were lumped together as New Mexico Territory. Willcox was in Dona Ana county, New Mexico Territory and the county seat was at Mesilla. On February 24, 1864, Congress passed the Organic Act, making Arizona a territory out of the western half of New Mexico Territory. Cochise County was formed from Pima County in 1881. The name of the county was chosen by the first county supervisors who were M.E. Joyce, J.D. Dyer and Joe Tasker.

This photo was taken by Harry Parks during a roundup near the Winchester Mountains. Similar roundups have been occurring in the Willcox area for over 100 years. *--Harry Parks Collection.*

In 1854, John James brought a herd of cattle enroute to California through here and was followed by herds driven by Fairchild, Buck and Bryant, Dunlap & Houston and one by Major Erskine. Although the Apaches were not at war with the Americans in those years and even professed friendship, Fairchild lost his entire herd to them, Houston was killed by them and they robbed Buck and Bryant of 140 head.

HOOKER

In 1872, Hooper and Hooker drove four herds, which totalled 15,500 head, over the Overland Trail and Col. Henry Clay Hooker established the Sierra Bonita Ranch in 1873 at a beautiful Cienaga not far from Willcox at the head of the Sulphur Springs Valley. It is still an important cattle ranch and his "Crooked H" brand is the oldest continuously used brand in Arizona.

Hooker was born in Hinsdale, N.H. Jan. 10, 1828. He served with the North in the Civil War with the rank of colonel. He established a mercantile business in San Francisco in 1865, but lost his investment in a fire.

Hooker was an educated, cultivated gentleman, who always wore black broadcloth suits and drove a buggy. He never rode in the saddle. He was a stickler for etiquette and entertained such celebrities as Gen. George Crook, Gen. Nelson Miles, Owen Wister and Whitlaw Reid at his ranch. The successful play, Arizona, by Augustus Thomas was based on life at his ranch.

In Hooker's lifetime his ranch had 20,000 cattle grazing on 250,000 acres. The ranch presently has 2,500 head on 50,000 acres. Col. Hooker died in 1907.

RIGGS

Brannick Riggs, a native of Alabama and a former Confederate soldier, came to Arizona by covered wagon through Texas and built a ranch. It was a polling place during Cochise County's early days with the polls, as well as a post office in his residence. It is listed as Precinct No. 20 and called Brannick in the Supervisor's minutes.

The three Munk brothers, Dr. Joseph A., Edward and William started a prosperous ranch around 1872. Ed was probate judge of Cochise County and superintendent of public schools 1886-90. Dr. Munk

Branding has been a basic part of ranching in the Willcox area for over 100 years. Men pictured above are branding calves while more branding irons heat in foreground.

--Harry Parks Collection.

wrote "Arizona Sketches" and "Southwest Sketches;" both were best sellers in their day.

The Kansas Cattle Company drove in cattle from Kansas and grazed them in the Dragoons as early as 1878; Capt. W. H. McKittrick also had a ranch and White, Vickers, and Pursley registered the CCC brand for the Chiricahua Cattle Company, but they soon sold to Henry Boice.

The Erie Cattle Company was founded by the city fathers of Erie, Penn. They were Stub Shattuck, Jim McNair, Whitney Brown, Chambers and Parker. In 1890, they had immense holdings in the Sulphur Springs Valley on both sides of the International line and ran 20,000 head of cattle. Ranch headquarters were at Silver Creek. Erie sold out to Ryan Brothers and so did Roy Sanderson, who branded the Spike 9 and ran cattle in Turkey Creek Canyon.

Around 1880, Clabe Merchant, Paramore, Hadley, Lewis and Cutbirth started the San Simon Cattle Company and grazed their herds near Galeyville.

Between 1881 and 1883, these cattlemen were getting $30 per head for their grass-fed steers. By 1891, there were 1.5 million cattle in Arizona. Drought struck in 1892 and 25,000 head of Willcox cattle were shipped to Texas grass, but by 1898 grass was plentiful again, and 29,985 were shipped to market.

A favorite attraction in Willcox today is Nelson's Livestock Auction held each Thursday. No admission is charged and bleacher seats are provided. All grades of cattle and horses are sold by small operators, who until the auction opened, were forced to sell to shylock cattle buyers at very little profit to themselves.

--by Grace McCool

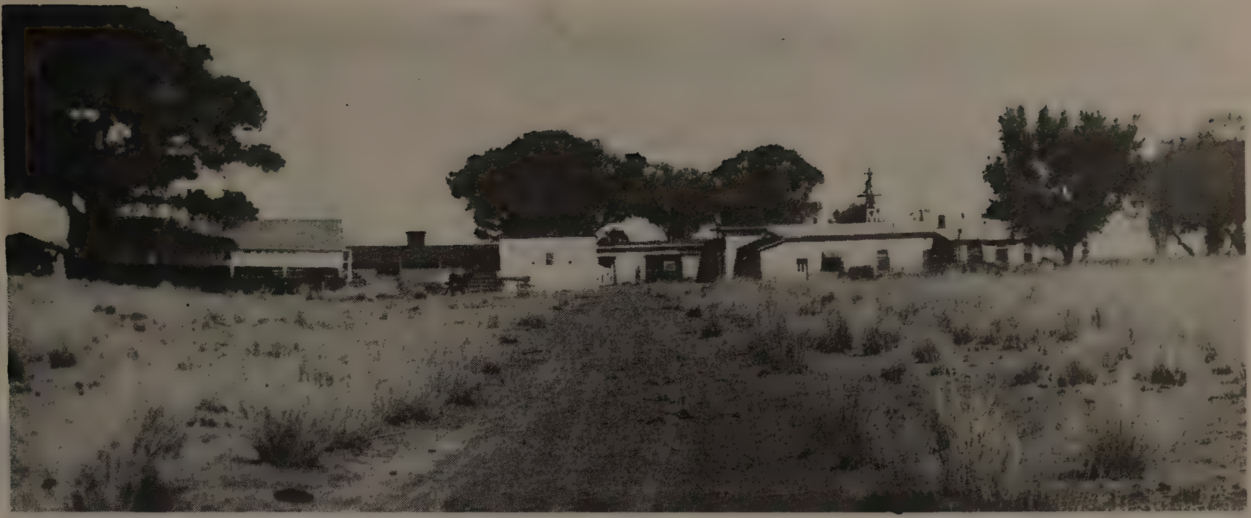
Pictured above is a longhorn steer in the Willcox stock pen.

--Harry Parks Collection.

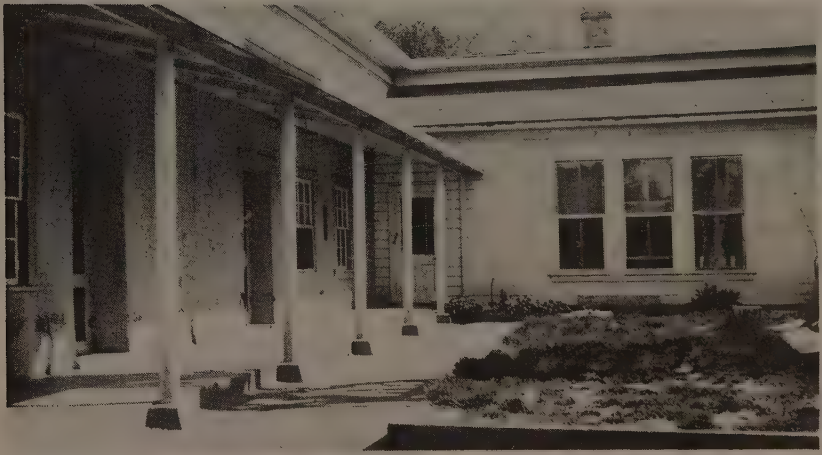
In the photo on the left the cowboys can be seen roping and throwing a calf in preparation for branding.
--Dorothy Uhl Ellis Collection.

In photo on left cowboys surround calf in preparation for branding.
--Dorothy Uhl Ellis Collection.

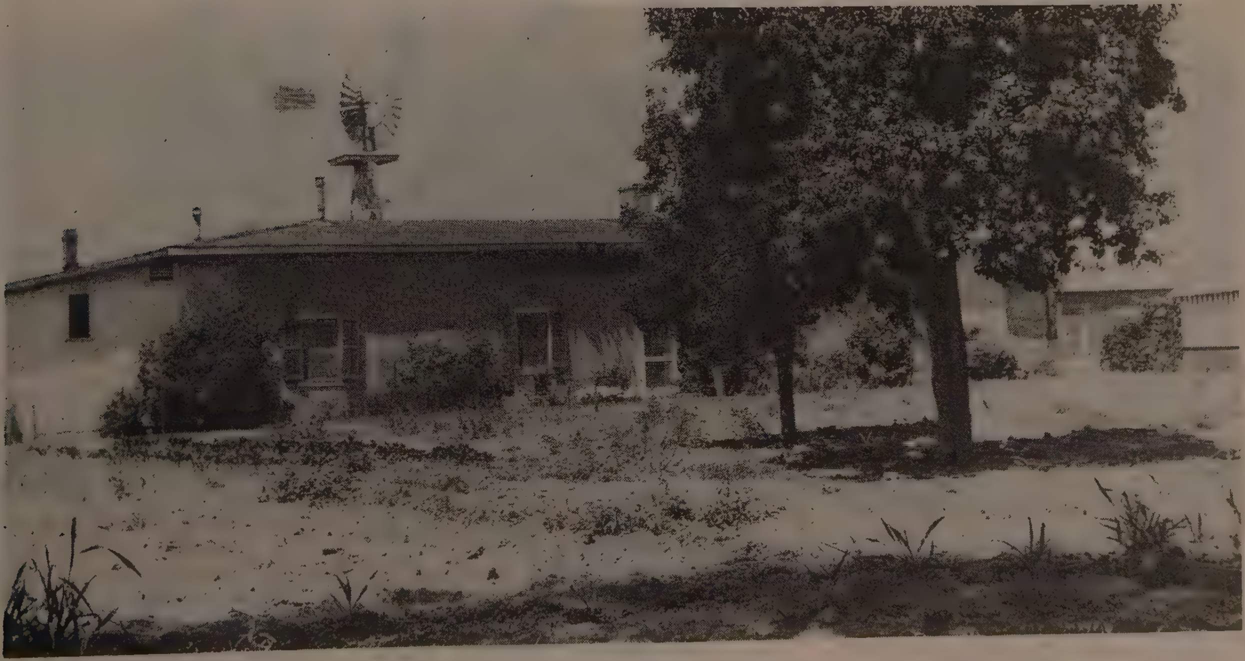
Willcox was a major cattle shipping center. Pictured on the right are cattle at the Willcox stockyards being loaded into rail cars. *--Ray Wien Collection.*



Panoramic view, Sierra Bonita Ranch. *--Rinki Hughes Collection.*



Courtyard, Sierra Bonita Ranch. *--Rinki Hughes Collection.*



Hooker House, Sierra Bonita Ranch. *--Rinki Hughes Collection.*

Old Pamphlet Lauds Farming Here

The following excerpt is from a 1913 pamphlet published by the Willcox Board of Trade. The Willcox Chamber of Commerce is roughly equivalent to the now defunct Board of Trade.

About Willcox & Vicinity

1. Ideal summer resorts in the great pine forests of Chiricahua and Graham Mountains.
2. Fine curative mineral springs 30 miles distant.
3. Great copper, gold, silver, lead and wolfram belt.
4. Splendid all-year open cattle range.
5. 500,000 acres of the finest agricultural land on earth $10 to $20 per acre.
6. Unlimited soft and pure water supply for irrigation and domestic use.
7. Coldest weather average 16 degrees above zero. Snow a rarity.
8. Hottest days seldom exceed 100 degrees in the shade.
9. 330 days sunshine per year.
10. Finest all around climate on earth.
11. Most healthful climate in the United States.
12. Cost of living same as all over the west.
13. Ideal alfalfa section, 6 to 9 tons per acre. Price $15 per ton.
14. Great potato section, both Irish and Sweet potatoes, $1.00 per bushel.
15. Sugar beets, 20 to 30 tons per acre. Factory will start when 5000 acres are planted. $5.00 per ton delivered.
16. Fine grape and berry country.
17. Best apple and pear country in Southwest, compares favorably with Wenatchee and Yakima, Washington; and Hood River, Oregon.
18. Soil dark and red loam, does not drift. Land level, cost preparing for irrigation insignificant. No rocks, no gravel.
19. Summer rains make good pasture.
20. Ideal hog and cattle country.
21. Ideal poultry and dairy section.
22. The bee keeper's paradise.
23. Corn yields 50 to 75 bushels per acre.
24. Excellent home markets; good coast markets.
25. Wheat, oats, barley, flax and rye grow often without irrigation; requires generally from one to two irrigations.
26. Sorghum, milo maize, Kaffir corn, beans, etc., raised generally without irrigation.
27. Superb vegetables raised with little effort.
28. Flowers and roses of gorgeous hues and colors.
29. Willcox has four churches.
30. Willcox has an accredited state high school.
31. Willcox has splendid grammar school.
32. Great business houses, and two banks.
33. Several Fraternal orders.
34. A Federated Woman's Club.
35. Pecans, English walnuts, almonds and figs thrive.
36. Cochise county is the largest in Arizona, assessed valuation $33,000,000.
37. Willcox has a good, live weekly newspaper.
38. Relinquishments to 160 acres of good land, including improvements, can be had for $500 to $1000.
39. Enormous areas of fine saw timber in Graham and Chiricahua Mountains.
40. Great copper mines of Dos Cabezas, 18 miles distant, and the Dragoon and Johnson copper mines from 16 to 20 miles away.
41. Finest marble quarries in America 25 miles distant.

Opportunity seldom knocks more than once at a person's door. It is knocking at yours now. Will you heed it?

The photo above, taken by Frank Tillotson, appeared in a 1913 publication promoting Willcox. The caption reads "Willcox Pumping Scene. Plant Supplies 1,500 Gallons Per Minute."

Alfalfa was a crop which came early to the Willcox area. The 1913 prospectus on Willcox shows this photo of alfalfa being cut using horse power. The caption reads "Cutting Fourth Crop of Alfalfa Eleven Months After Planting."

According to the 1913 publicity pamphlet published by the Willcox Board of Trade, oats such as those seen here were often grown without irrigation, and at the most required from one to two irrigations. Caption reads "Oatfield at Willcox."

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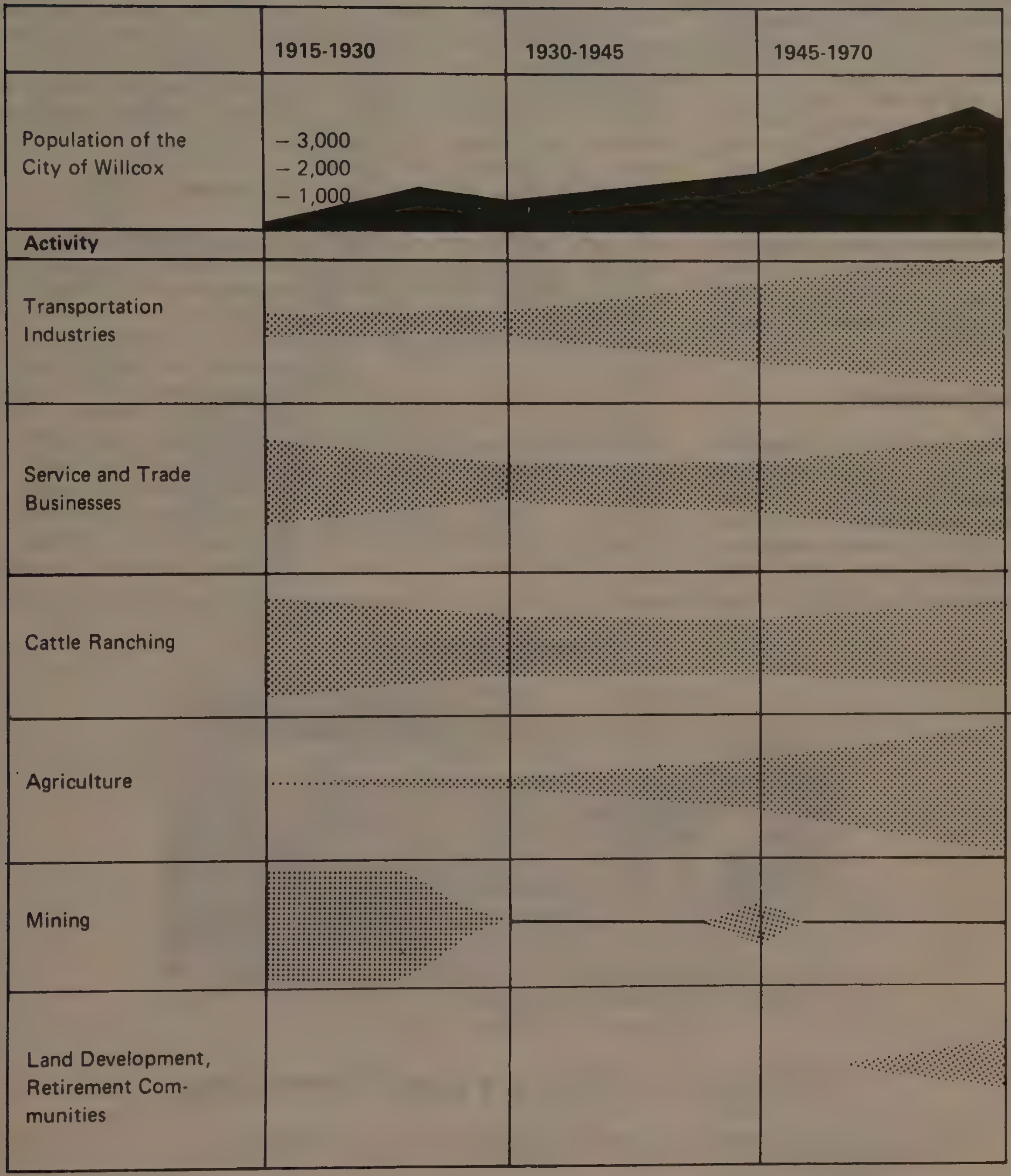
1915-1930
1930-1945
1945-1970
Population of the City of Willcox
– 3,000
– 2,000
– 1,000
Activity
Transportation Industries
Service and Trade Businesses
Cattle Ranching
Agriculture
Mining
Land Development, Retirement Communities

Willcox In The 1970's, By Allan Burns

Irrespective of the potential for economic development, in the final analysis, the willingness and determination of the people to invest time and funds in the economic development of the community and to encourage others to do likewise is the largest contributing factor in the development of any area... If Willcox's economy is left to luck and good fortune without any conscious effort to stimulate and utilize its resources, the future is bleak; but if effort is marshalled toward expanding the economy, then the area's economic future is bright [Despain & Associates, 1971, pp. 28-29].

The Community

What is Willcox? From the beginning, this report has stressed the variety of influences which have shaped the town into its present configuration. Like the proverbial elephant described by seven blind men, Willcox continues to look like different things to different people. It is, by self-proclamation, the "Cattle Capital of the Country." To some, this constant presense of ranching defines Willcox as a "Western" or "Cow Town." The annual Rex Allen Days festival, instigated in 1952, stresses the western, cowboy image of the town. As one reporter put it, Willcox has "...a unique linkage of present and very real western culture with the national myth of the cowboy, expressed in the form of a community wide festival" (McLeneghan & Stone, 1961, p. 22).

Willcox, including the surrounding areas, is more than the ideal of this one occupational group. Although the mystique or "culture" of the cowboy is often used as a rallying point or identifying mark of the community, the other forces of the different occupations, nationalities, trading patterns, and land ecology make up Willcox as well. Not everyone is a cowboy, although he or she may appear to be one during the annual Rex Allen Days festival. The strength of the community is in its diversity, not the adherence to one way of making a living over all others.

Beginning the 70's

This section describes some of the salient features of the community as it began the decade of the 1970's. The emphasis will be on pulling together the social strands of the community. Following this, the school system will be described as it has developed through the years within the context of the community.

The common characteristic of the population picture of Willcox and the surrounding

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But our commitment to rural America is as broad as America itself. So we'll go on—working for the benefit of our consumers, for consumers everywhere.

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area is the steady growth it has experienced over the last 40 years. The official population for the town itself in 1970 was 2,550 (U.S. Burea of Census, 1970). This is below the 3,000 person figure of 1965, and common understanding in the town is that the official census figures were low. But this relatively small population is indicative only of the town itself. The surrounding area contains far more people. The 1970 population count for the school district (see Figure 1) was 4,435. The school district line stops at the top of Cochise County for political reasons, even though the "trade area" of the community extends farther. Willcox is the major town within a 50-mile radius, and estimates in the Community Prospectus (1971) and Comrehensive Plan (1971) place the number of people affected by the trade of Willcox to be between 8,000 and 10,000. The "trade area" has been established on the following grounds: newpaper circulation, utilities hookups (telephone, electricity, etc.), and bank customers. But it would be incorrect to assume that the population of the trade area regularly markets or otherwise uses the facilities of the town. The closeness of Tucson (reachable within about an hour and a half on the interstate) draws much of the business of the Willcox area to that city. Safford, a community situated about 50 miles to the north of Willcox, is rapidly expanding, and the existence of discount stores as well as larger chain stores draws people to that community as well. The markets of Willcox are expanding and continue to serve the community. The importance of Tucson and Safford to the community are that they indicate that Willcox is not an isolated town. The isolation is broken down by other factors besides transportation and marketing. Daily and weekly newspapers from Tucson are regularly received in Willcox. Phoenix and Los Angeles newspapers are also circulated in town. Four television channels can be received from Tucson with a normal antenna, and a cable television company which has been located in town since 1971 increases this number to eight.

Recreation

The interstate highway also serves the recreation needs of the people. Although there is a movie theater located in the town, it is not frequented by the adult population. Instead, a dinner and a movie in the city of Tucson has become a common recreational practice. Other cultural events of that city, ranging from pop music concerts to opera, draw people of all ages out of Willcox and into Tucson many times a month.

The age and sex ratio of the population of the Willcox area reflect this increasing "pull" of Tucson and places beyond. In this sense, Willcox is similar to many small towns: there is a noticeable lack of young people between the ages of 18 and 30 as they leave the area after high

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Rex Cotherman cuts sheet of steel for roof for bleachers at Sheriff's Posse Arena.

FFA boys put finishing touches on roof of bleachers at Sheriff's Posse Arena.

school graduation in search of a different life. The population distribution of the school district is shown in Figure 30.

The outmigration of the area is not limited to young people. Community residents understand the delicate balance of their livelihood and the economic strength of the community, and the necessity to leave the area when conditions are not favorable. One businessman described a hypothetical sequence of migration, which well indicates the larger population network to which Willcox is tied. He began by saying that if a service businessman were to find that farming had declined and made his business uneconomical, that person would have to move to Tucson. There in Tucson, the pressure of that person and his family would force a similarly employed person from Tucson to move to Phoenix. There, the same set of events would force someone from Phoenix to move to Los Angeles.

Whether this description of population dynamics is correct in all details need not be a concern of this history. What is important about this illustration is that a general westward migration in the nation is recognized also in Willcox. This migration in fact begins in the Midwest, the home of many of the new retirees, as well as many of the younger teachers in the school system. The naming of Tucson, Phoenix and Los Angeles in the illustration also indicates the reference points for the area, as do the newspapers arriving from these three cities. In short, people look to the West for news, markets, and what can be described as a "general cultural direction."

Continued Growth

The emphasis in the preceding paragraphs on migration should not be interpreted as meaning that the community is dying out. As mentioned previously, the general trend in overall population figures is one of continued growth. The outmigration is occuring in the age brackets of 18 to 30, but immigration is occurring for other age brackets. That the general population of the brackets. That the general population of the community is getting older is perhaps distorted by the number of retirees who are entering the area. Young people with families also continue to enter the community. A different trend may indeed be beginning in the community: very recent immigrants to Willcox and the area refer to the advantages of living in a medium-sized town as the reason why they chose to settle there. If the "return to the small town" ethic continues, the good geographic and economic position which Willcox enjoys could bring more people into its community.

Although the Mexican American people in the town constitute almost 30% of the population, and within the school district almost 20%, it

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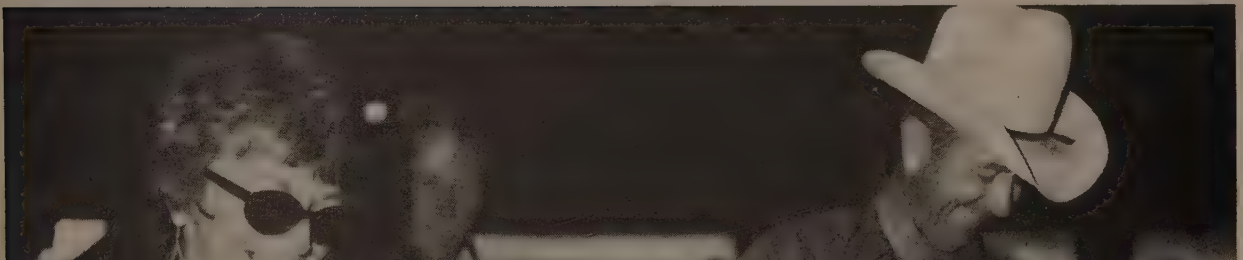

Keith and Joyce Creamer enjoy barbeque at Teachers Barbeque.

has not been until very recently that they have begun to be an effective social and political force within the community. In the farming and ranching areas beyond the limits of the town itself, Mexican Americans have played important roles in the developing economy of the community. Migrant production, although increasing mechanization has lessened the use of farm labor for the last two of these crops. Long-term farm and ranch labor has been done by members of this population throughout the history of the area. Today Mexican Americans are represented on all levels of agricultural businesses.

Minority Groups

Within the town, few Mexican Americans have traditionally been represented in business or civic organizations, although this is changing. A grocery market owned by a Mexican American has more than tripled its floor area in the last three years, and Willcox elected a Mexican American to the city council in 1972. The school system has had few Mexican Americans in teaching or administrative positions, although many carry out maintenance, aide, and other operational functions of the school.

According to residents, after World War II, Mexican Americans began to understand their contributions to the community. They helped with the building of the veteran's club and brought about a change in consciousness within the Mexican community based on the importance of participating in the activities of the town. This is a trend which is continuing.

There is a danger in calling attention to and labeling one group, such as the Mexican Americans, in a community. That danger lies in the tendency to identify all members of that community as similar and forget the differences they may have with one another, and the similarities they have with other people in the community. Categorization always detracts from the uniqueness and fullness of the people being described. Just as Willcox itself cannot be described as a "cattle town," so too, identifying one segment of its population can obscure the totality of the community.

With this caveat in mind, it is also necessary to point out the sense of community that many Mexican Americans have in Willcox. By choice, most of them live within one section of the town, worship at the same church, and speak a common language in addition to English. Most have been employed in lower paying jobs. Out of these characteristics, bonds have been formed. The Mexican Americans in Willcox have a sense of togetherness at times, just as the cowboys, local business people, and teachers and their families do. As the 1970's began, the effect of these bonds within the group of people with Mexican American heritage began to be

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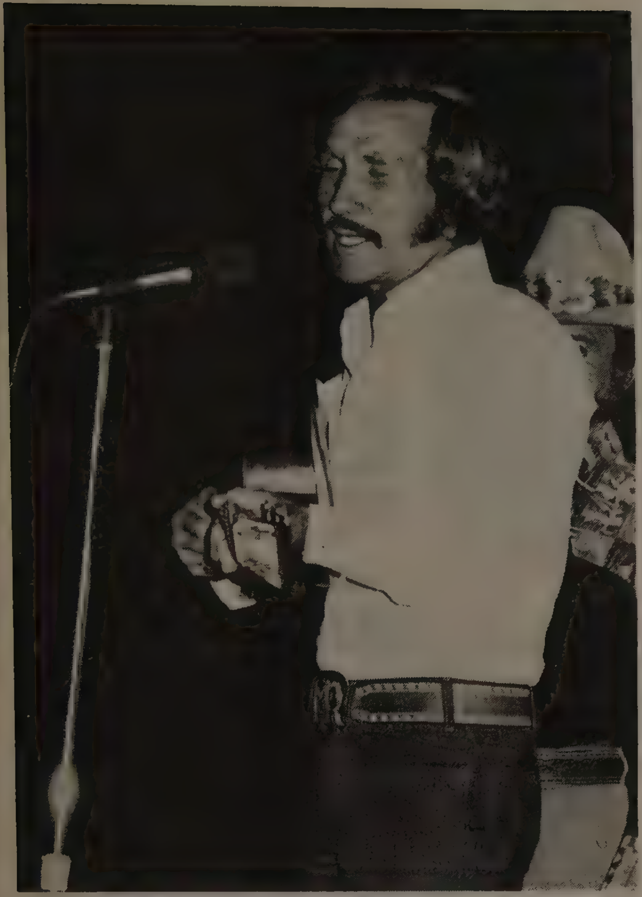

Country-western entertainer Marty Robbins performs in Willcox during the city's Bicentennial celebration on July 3, 1976. Robbins was the main performer during the celebration, which attracted several thousand persons. It was sponsored by Radio Station KHIL and southeastern Arizona merchants.

Singer Margo Smith performs during the Marty Robbins' concert in Willcox on July 3, 1976. Margo accompanied Marty Robbins to Willcox to participate in the city's Bicentennial celebration. Several thousand persons attended the concert July 3.

directed toward affecting some political and social changes in the town. The town has responded well, and most community members recognize the strength that this segment of the Willcox population will add to the total community.

After 1957, when the position of city manager was added to the local government, zoning laws, city annexation, building codes, and the paving of the remainder of the streets in the town took place. The city has also sponsored various economic and business surveys, the latest being the *Comprehensive Plan for the City of Willcox* (1971). These surveys and plans are all aimed at attracting more business to the town. Small manufacturing businesses are especially being courted. Thus far an irrigation pipe manufacturing plant and a number of farm machinery businesses have been added to the town.

Constructing a Park

Between 1965 and 1970, the city built an extensive park area on the north side of town which includes a large swimming pool, tennis courts, and picnic area. This park illustrates the continuing civic improvement spirit of the community, especially its government. Not only was this park, with its free swimming pool for all community residents, built in that year, but a vistors' center and museum was also built. This center, staffed by city employees, has one of the finest display museums of any town in the state or region. In the center, the history of the area is displayed, and, as has been mentioned, Nino Cochise is on hand to greet visitors and townspeople alike.

By the early 1970's, the "City of Willcox" had taken on its share of community activities. Besides the recreational and cultural programs mentioned above, the local government had by this time become the source for the town's water supply, natural gas, sewage and garbage disposal, and fire protection. The city government also sponsored an art league and in 1970 dedicated a new library. Leadership was energetic, and participation in council sessions was high.

The economic picture of the community was not as bright as the picture of local governmental activities. A report on the economy of the area published in 1971 (Despain & Associates, 1971) noted that of the more than 8,00 people in the Willcox trade area, only about one-fourth were considered to be in the labor force. Of that 25%, almost one person in eight was unemployed (ibid., 1971, pp. 17-18).

Part of the reason for the high unemployment rates is the agricultural base of the area, but even that, the average family income level has remained low, estimated in 1970 to be $8,333. Of the 4,535 persons listed as residents of the school district, 18.2% were below the federal poverty level based on income and family size.

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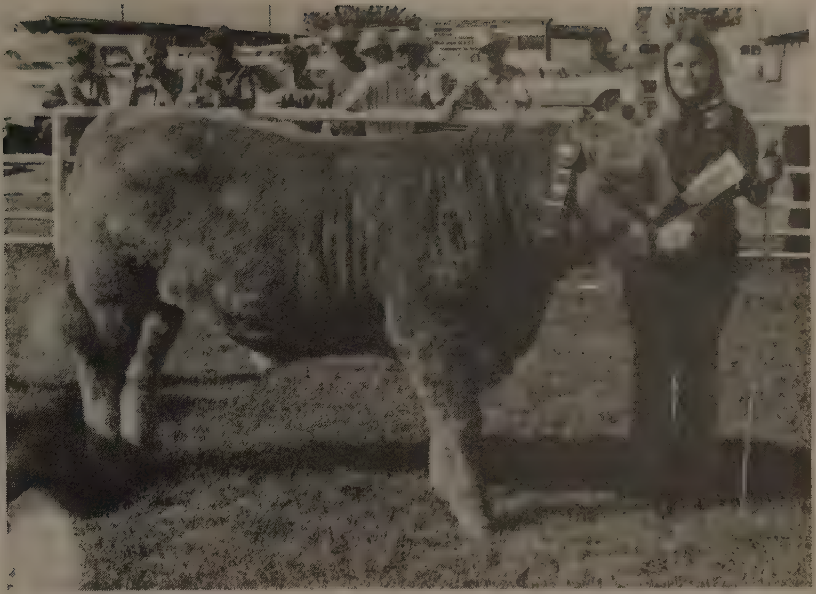
Toni Lee shows off her grand champion steer at the Cochise County Fair in Douglas. Miss Lee won the honor several years ago.



Ann Landers, left, presents Kathy Shelton with her award for winning the local 4-H food nutrition contest. Ann Landers, the popular columnist, has long been interested in 4-H work, especially in the nutrition end of it.

Here's Lee Young working in the Arizona National Calf Scramble in 1974. Lee has long been active in 4-H work and related agricultural activities.

Economic Activities

The major economic activities in the Willcox area center around agriculture, tourism, and government (ibid., 1971, p. 21). As has been noted earlier, ranching has remained a steady, slightly increasing activity in the area, with about 50,000 head of cattle being shipped out of Willcox a year. Agriculture has grown fastest, and land put under irrigation has increased, 1,000% since 1945. Tourism, which accounts for much of the retail trade of the city of Willcox, continues to grow, albeit not at the rates other parts of Arizona have experienced. An economic survey of the town carried out in 1970 noted that fully two-thirds of the employoment work force in Willcox's commercial establishments were supported by customers origiating outside the city (University of Arizona Department of Geography, 1971, p. 24).

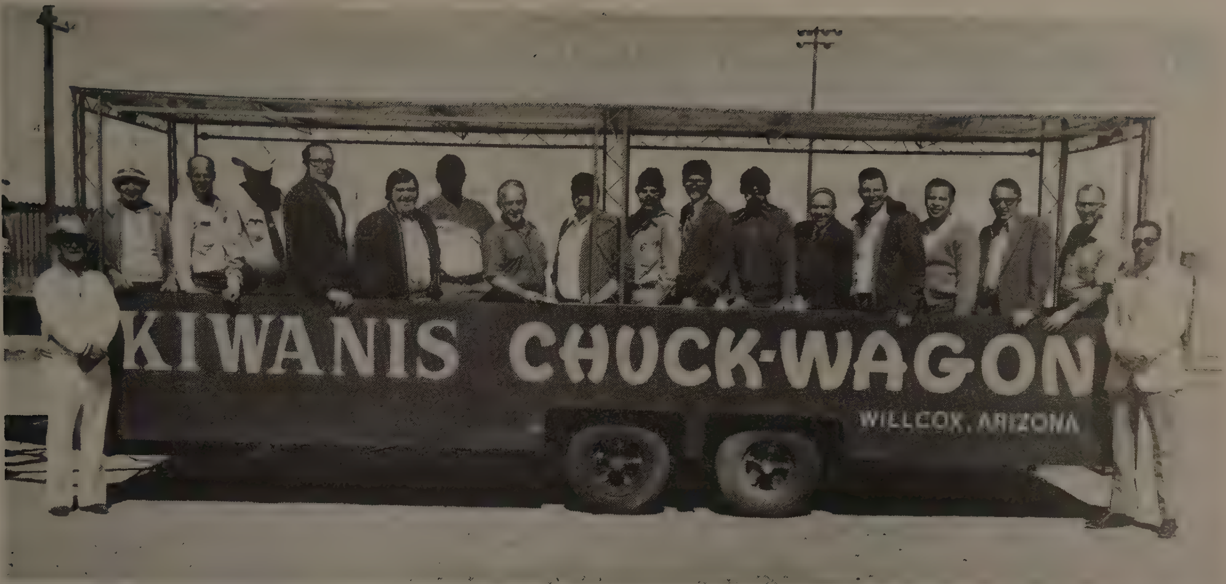
Within the city itself, the major employers are the school system, the hospital, and the Sulphur Springs Valley Electric Cooperative, each employing between 60 and 150 persons. The economic survey cited above notes that over 370 persons were employed in wholesale and retail trades in Willcox in 1970 (ibid., 1971, p. 11). Governmental employment accounts for 10% of the Willcox employment scene (Willcox Community Prospectus, 1972).

Of course not all of the wholesale and retail trade employees are serving the tourist trade, but the 46 service stations, eating places, and motels of Willcox employed some 114 people in 1970.

The city of Willcox supports itself with a 1% sales tax on retail trade within the city. Supplemental revenues come from the operation of the utilites and services mentioned earlier, with the exception of the hospital, which has been self-sufficient and under its own board of directors since 1957. Recent bond issues for city improvement have been passed without difficulty. The latest was a $325,000 issue for a new water system in 1970 to correct the high fluoride system that was in use at the time. The city government also receives federal revenue sharing funds, which are used for equipment and building maintenance and repair.

Predictions in the future economic patterns of the community are difficult. In 1970 it was reported that the declining agricultural market and poor crop yields were threatening this important economic pillar of the community. Since that time, higher grain prices and better crops have resulted in an upsurge of agricultural activity. Increases in the price of beef will also probably boost the cattle industry of the area, and the use of feedlots to supplement range feeding will aid this portion of the economy. The cattle industry has always been very dependent on rainfall, and the continuing dry weather over the last few years is hurting the success of this sector of the economy. Tourism is increasing, and although the "business loop" through the town of Willcox was bypassed in 1969, the downtown businesses continue to do trade with the automobile passengers, as Willcox is the first major town one meets west of the New Mexico line and east of Tucson.

Jack Johnson, winner of Funk's sorghum growing contest, and Tenne Straub, former Rex Allen Days Queen, pose before a mountain of milo, all of which was grown in the Willcox area.
--photo courtesy Funk's.



The Willcox Kiwanis Club poses with its new chuck wagon, which was purchased** to better help the organization serve meals and snacks at events in the Willcox area. It was the first of its type obtained by a civic group in Willcox. Below, members of the Willcox Kiwanis Club serve residents during their annual pancake breakfast. The annual breakfast has almost become a tradition in the community and is one of several such events put on by **various civic organizations.

Here's what the Valley National Bank staff looked like a few years back. Although several staff changes have been made since the photo was taken, many of the persons shown are still serving residents of Northern Cochise County.

Brief Survey Of Major Events Of 1976

Jan. 8, 1976

Gov. Raul Castro, saying northern Cochise County should promote international trade with Mexico, presented the Willcox Community Prospectus to city officials Monday night.

The prospectus is designed to encourage economic development of the area by explaining its resources to potential investors.

Speaking to more than 100 persons attending a dinner at the Stockman's Restaurant, Castro said he was aware of rural Arizona's needs and was working to fulfill them.

"I've always had the feeling that there's more to Arizona than Phoenix," Castro said. "I feel in the rural areas we have a tremendous future. I think my job as governor is to get more going than Phoenix and Tucson."

But, Castro said, it's now time for southeastern Arizona to begin developing a relatively untapped resource--international trade with Mexico.

"There is a natural farming area south of Douglas," Castro said. "To me, it makes sense to have the people from there coming to Willcox for farm machinery and equipment."

International trade is what made such major cities as Houston, Miami and New Orleans, he said, and similar economic steps could be taken here on a much smaller scale.

Castro arrived in Willcox shortly after 5 p.m. Monday and was taken on a tour of the Cochise Visitor Center by Gordon Douglas. The gathering at the Stockman's began at 6:30 p.m., with Burkett Wamsley serving as master of ceremonies. Castro presented the community prospectus to Mayor Thelmer Smith and Chamber president Dorothy Glenn.

The governor said the prospectus would serve as a guide for potential investors in the area. And, he said, the state's role in helping develop the area won't stop with publication of the report.

Jan. 15, 1976

The Willcox School Board, faced with rising costs and state-ordered special education programs, is selecting an advisory committee to study the district's financial situation.

"I think that it is absolutely necessary as a result of inflation and the seven per cent limits placed on school districts' budget that a committee....sit down and review our total fiscal situation," Supt. Ben Travis told the school board at its last meeting.

The committee, which was to be named this week, would consist of people from the community, teachers, administrators and board members, Travis said.

"Now that we are faced with a mandated special education

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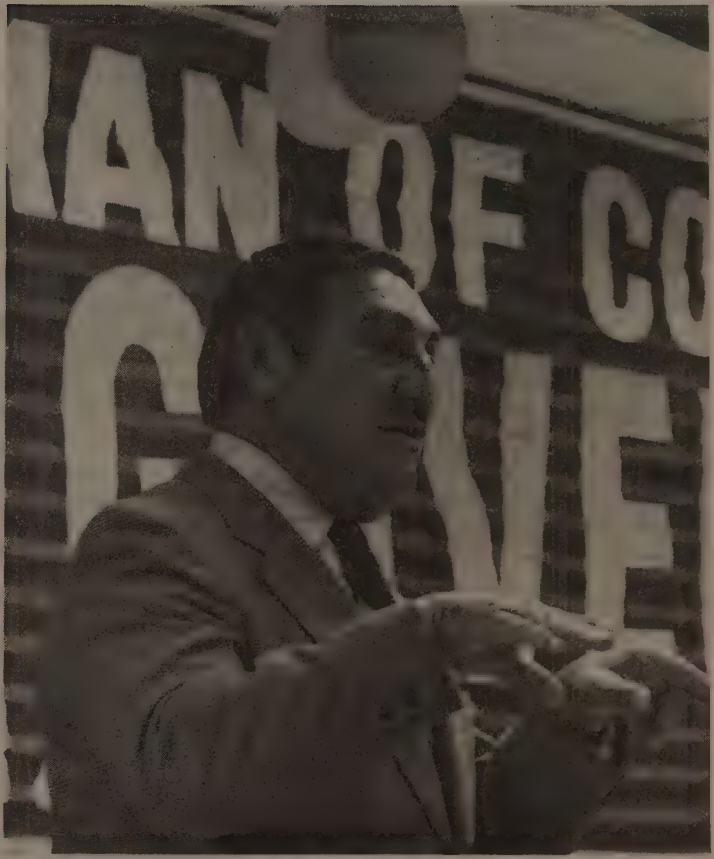
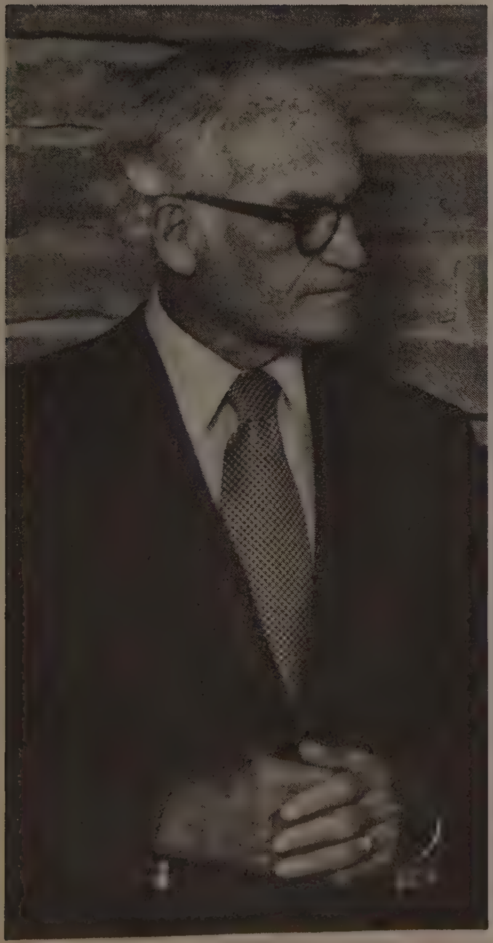
U.S. Rep. Morris K. Udall during one of his campaign appearances in Willcox. Udall, a Democrat from Tucson, unsuccessfully sought his party's nomination as President in 1976, but was re-elected to Congress, defeating Republican Laird Guttersen 105,808 to 71,613 votes.



Raul Castro campaigns in Willcox shortly before being elected Arizona's governor in 1974. Castro, a Democrat, did well in Cochise County when the final vote tabulation was in, but carried Arizona by only 4,000 votes.



U.S. Sen. Barry Goldwater talks with Willcox residents during a campaign swing through Cochise County in the 1974 election. Goldwater, a Republican, defeated Democratic challenger Jonathan Marshall in his bid for another six-year Senate term. Goldwater, however, was not expected to seek re-election in the 1980 campaign.

program, inflation, an increase in utility rates and many other areas, we must take a close look at how we can meet these demands for the next fiscal year,'' he added.

Travis pointed out that the local school district rate last year dropped from $4.29 to $4.28 per $100 assessed valuation, but indicated the chances for a repeat of that were poor.

''The present seven per cent limit placed upon the school district's budgets would allow the Willcox Public Schools an additional $60,000 to be added to their budget for next year,'' he said.

''If the budget is to be increased more than $60,000, it would require an override election to be passed by the citizens of Willcox.''

Travis said the committee probably would begin work on possible budget options within the next week.

Feb. 19, 1976

(Editor's Note: The Rural Schools Project was begun in the Willcox school system in 1973 through large federal grants. In less than two years, that federal money will be gone and local school officials must decide how much of the program to retain under local financing. This is one key area under consideration as school officials try to draw up the next school year budget.)

For the last month, Supt. Ben Travis has been explaining the school's financial situation to a committee of about 20 persons. And the outlook for the coming year doesn't look too rosey.

What does this mean to you? Well, the chances are just about 99 out of 100 that the heart of the school's budget-maintenance and operation--is going up from this year's $1.3 million.

And--one way or another--that means you'll be paying more for your schools in the district's fiscal year starting July 1.

If there's one thing that's been made relatively clear in the last month, it's that Willcox Public Schools haven't been on a spending spree in recent years.

The salaries of teachers and administrators alike appear to rank well below the state average. The district's portion of the property tax dropped a penny per $1000 assessed valuation last year.

Many new parts of the school system--such as the media center--aren't the product of strictly local property tax dollars. They were part of the Rural School Program, something financed through the federal income tax. And by 1978, the federal money used to finance that five-year program will be gone.

For example, the federal government will pump nearly $256,000 into the Rural Schools Project this year in Willcox. If Travis and his associates get what they're hoping for in 1976-77, that figure will dwindle to just over $184,000 in federal money.

In all, Willcox will receive about $1 million in federal funds by the time the five-year

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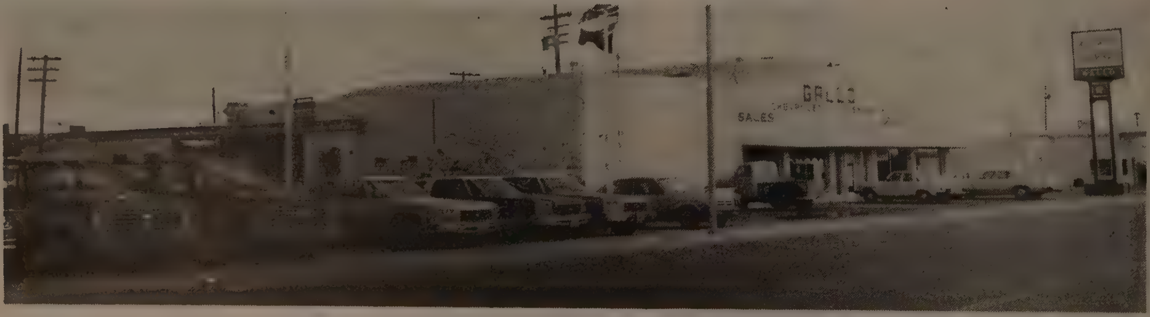

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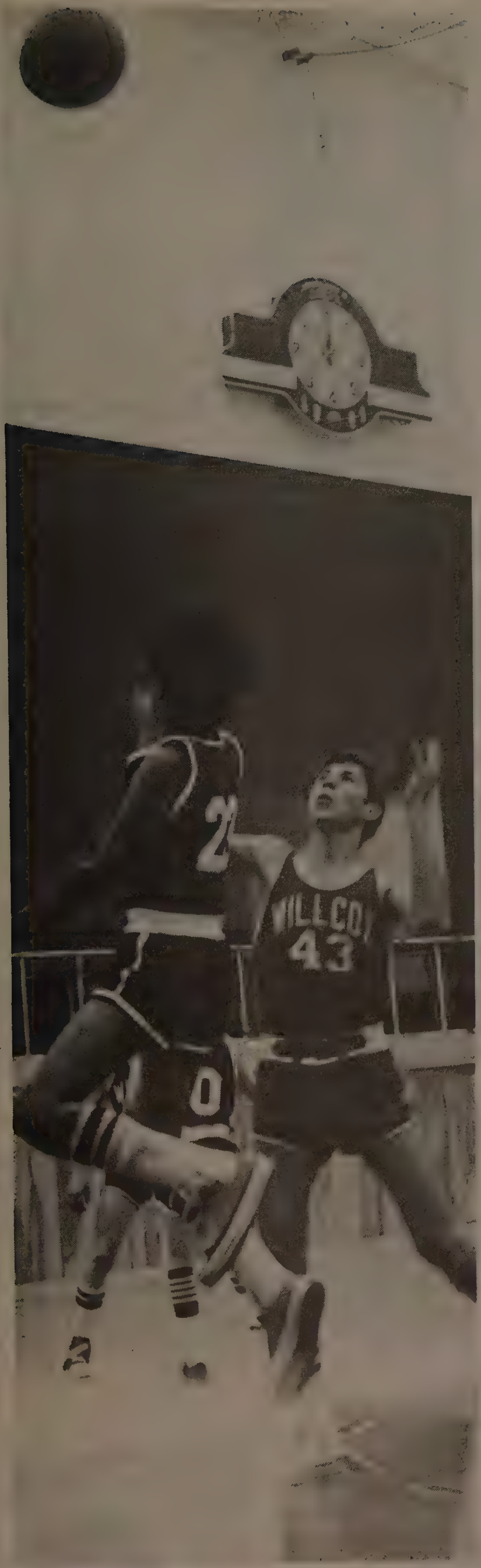
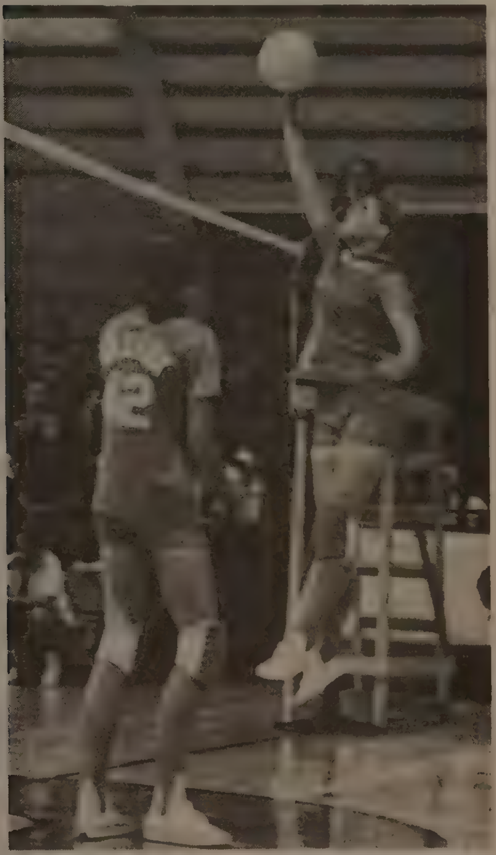
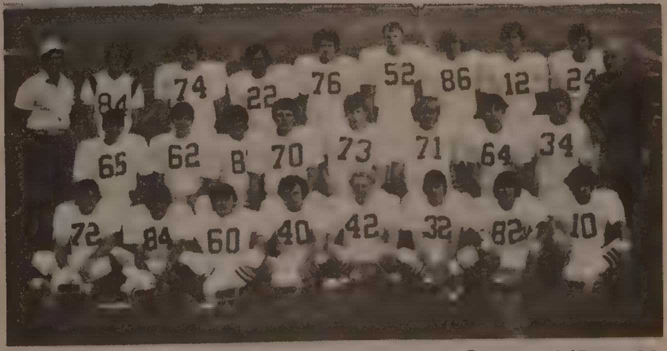


As the final buzzer sounds, a Willcox High School basketball player tries unsuccessfully to block a shot.

Cindy Brewster and Melissa Briggs of the Willcox High School volleyball team set up for a play during the 1975 season. The Willcox team went on to capture the district and state Class B volleyball title that year.



Members of the Willcox High School football team pose for this photo shortly before the 1976 season began. Coaches Bob Thomas, far left, and Boone Jackson, far right, were preparing their team for its first season of Class A athletic competition. After the year ended, the team had won four games.



program ends. When the federal money is gone, it will be up to local school officials to decide what parts of the program they want to retain--or can afford to keep.

That transition already has begun.

Rural schools has helped the area substantially. If you have a child in school, he or she probably has been affected directly by its programs. If you're a taxpayer, it's brought some of those distant federal tax dollars back to Willcox.

But today, federal financing of the program gradually is becoming a thing of the past.

It was an experiment to begin with. Some of the original ideas have worked. Some haven't. Some have been changed to make them more applicable.

What the Willcox Schools will be faced with next school (and budget) year, will be to decide how much of Rural Schools to retain.

The program began in the 1973-74 school year with more than $200,000 in federal funds.

Feb. 26, 1976

Sulphur Springs Valley Electric Cooperative has asked the Arizona Corporation Commission for a 9.17 per cent general rate increase. If approved, it would bring in $772,000 for the cooperative.

General manager Howard Bethel said it was the first general rate increase requested by the utility in four years. However, it come on top of an earlier hike in December generally stemming from increased rates charged by the utility's wholesale supplier, Arizona Electric Power Cooperative.

Bethel, announced that proposed increases would affect more than 17,200 consumers in all classes of service, but added that some of SSVEC's rate request includes temporary wholesale power or fuel adjustments that consumers have already been paying on an interim basis since December.

Bethel said that SSVEC has also filed several major changes in the structure of its electric rates. Residential electric rates, for example, would be consolidated and modified from a declining rate block design to more closely track annual peak load costs of providing service, he said.

"Instead of four rates, our 13,800 residential consumers would be billed on a single rate that changes seasonally," Bethel said. "The co-op proposes to price all summer usage during our peak demand season from June through September on a uniform or flat rate.

"The other eight "off peak" months would be priced in two rate blocks; the size of the more expensive rate block would be 80% of summertime energy consumption," he added.

Bethel explained that this new approach is designed to stimulate energy conservation and load management since each consumer's winter rate would be determined by individual conservation efforts during the summer.

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Golf has become more popular in Northern Cochise County during recent years. Here, members of the Willcox High School golf team practice on the driving range at Arizona Bell Country Club.

These kids are now a lot older, but here's the way the Willcox Little League appeared in 1968. The team was coached by Manny Gonzales, far left.

Pole vaulter Darrell Hart poses for this photo in 1969 after breaking the state record in that event. Spring sports at Willcox High School have grown in interest in recent years. Along with track, there is baseball and tennis which are offered at the school during the spring.

March 4, 1976

A committee which has been studying the Willcox Public Schools finances recommended Monday night that voters be asked to approve a measure which would increase teachers' salaries without raising district taxes.

The proposal, in effect, would ask voters to transfer two-thirds of the district's 60-cent tax levy--which property owners currently are paying-into the general fund. Most of the money, in turn, would be used to bring salaries up to the estimated state average for the next school year.

Although the proposal would leave untouched the district's current tax rate of $4.28 per $100 assessed valuation, funds cannot be transferred out of the tax levy account without voter approval.

Superintendent Ben Travis said the tax levy money--which brings in about $180,000 annually--has been used in the past primarily for major school improvement projects. But next year, he said, most of the money could be used elsewhere since the schools' physical condition is considered good.

The committee began meeting six weeks ago to study the district's financial condition and to look into the alternatives for the coming school year.

Its proposal to increase teachers' salaries was tied closely with a second which would shuffle funds from the 60-cent tax levy into the general fund.

Both received unanimous support from the committee, along with a third which proposes that the district quit subsidizing the school lunch program with local tax money. In essence, the suggestion recommends that school lunches be increased next fall by not more than 10 cents each.

If they were increased by a dime, the committee believes about $14,000 could be raised during the school year. Currently, the lunch program is subsidized by both the federal government and the local school district.

The advisory committee, composed of about 20 private citizens, can only make recommendations to the school board. Its proposals were to be presented to the board Tuesday night.

March 25, 1976

Willcox officials are quietly working on a program designed to clean up some of the town's eyesores and at the same time keep trash in the landfill once it has been dumped there.

Frank LaVoie, the city's new public works director, is planning to close the city dump west of the cemetery and at the same time improve controls at the nearby landfill.

One of the key problems, he says, is that some persons have been scavenging rubbish after it has been dumped and returning it to their homes within the city.

Eventually, he says, the city winds up hauling it back to the

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Ben Travis, superintendent of Willcox public schools, gives instructions to students at the Willcox Elementary School.

Bobo the Clown is one of the main attractions to children in the Willcox area. Bobo, also known to adults as Bob Vreeland, has donated much of his own time and money to make children happy.

The Willcox Boy Scout Hut gets a face lifting by scouts several years ago. The hut has been used for scouting for at least 20 years. It originally was donated for that purpose by Sulphur Springs Valley Electric Cooperative.

land fill--creating extra work for city employees and also posing health and safety hazards within the city.

Although the problem may seem minor to many, a tour of condemned or abandoned homes in Willcox last week revealed that a relatively serious problem does exist.

Among nice homes on the community's north side, several abandoned homes provide playgrounds for children and sleeping quarters for transients.

The city has condemned one home near where a fire broke out several months ago. The abandoned structure, city officials say, may soon be torn down by city employees.

April 8, 1976

Thirteen persons, including three write-in candidates, are seeking seats on the Willcox City Council in the April 16 city primary.

Although registration figures would not be available until later this week, City Clerk Betty Stoddard said she believed more persons than usual had registered. The deadline for registering was Tuesday.

"We've had quite a rush during the last two weeks," she said. "There appears to be a lot of interest in this election."

The names of 10 persons, including five incumbents, will appear on the official ballot. In addition, three others--Nat Harris, Fran Thomsen and Richard Seidel--submitted petitions to run as write-in candidates.

Biographical information, photos and statements on 12 of the 13 candidates appear elsewhere in this week's edition.

Incumbents seeking re-election are Charles W. Leighton, Jr., Ray Messenger, Thelmer A. Smith, Jr., Manuel Gonzales and Wayman Hopkins.

In addition, five other challengers appear on the ballot: Thomas P. Page, Donald E. Fenn, Walter L. Foster, Sarah R. Hjelte and Keith Johnson.

A general election, if needed, will be held on May 18.

April 15, 1976

Southern Pacific Railroad has paid $3.57 million to a former Willcox woman and two children of a man killed in a train-truck crash here in 1966.

Melanie Lueck Sakall, in a document filed this week in Pima County Superior Court in Tucson, confirmed that she had received the payment, which was ordered by a jury trial three years ago.

The lawsuit stemmed from the death of William T. Lueck, a 29-year-old Willcox man who was killed when the truck he was driving collided with a train at Maley Avenue and the railroad tracks. Lueck was proprietor of his own trucking service at the time of his death.

Mrs. Sakall, 34, has since remarried Daniel SaKall, Pima County's adult probation officer.

Southern Pacific originally was ordered to pay $2 million in compensatory damages and $1.08 million more in punitive damages. The railroad company contested the amount, saying it was excessive.

The Arizona Court of Appeals overturned the verdict in 1974, but the State Supreme Court reversed the appeals court decision late last year.

Mrs. Sakall's attorney, Dale Haralson, then asked that the judgement, plus legal fees and interest, be paid. That amounted to $3.57 million.

The attorney contended during the trial that the railroad was guilty of "wanton negligence" leading to Lueck's death.

Testimony during the trial indicated that Lueck had waited for one train to pass the crossing, then started his truck when it was hit by a second train traveling backward and faster than the speed limit.

Mrs. Sakall's children, Jeffrey, 15, and Theodore, 10, each will receive $1 million of the judgement, according to the verdict.

April 22, 1976

Two persons will seek the one remaining City Council seat May 18 in the community's first general election since it turned to bipartisan voting a decade ago.

By receiving a majority of the 348 votes cast, five incumbents and one newcomer were elected automatically to the seven-member council in last Friday's city primary election.

But the outcome of the seventh seat must be determined in May's general election when Keith "Bud" Johnson and Walter Foster face each other.

Foster received 170 votes and Johnson 159 in the primary. At least 175 votes were needed to obtain a majority.

The top vote getters in Friday's election were Mayor Thelmer Smith and incumbent Manuel Gonzales with 275 votes each. Also elected were incumbents Wayman Hopkins, 226 votes; Charles Leighton, 217; and Ray Messenger, 232. Write-in candidate Frances Thomsen received 202 votes in her successful bid.

Originally, city officials believed all seven unsuccessful candidates in the primary would be included on the general election ballot.

On Monday, however, they determined that the law requires no more than two persons to run for the same seat in a general election.

They originally believed that any candidate receiving 10 votes or more--which all did--would be on the ballot in May.

The primary posed several problems for election workers, who were on the job until almost dawn Saturday trying to tabulate votes.

April 29, 1976

A Florida company which claimed to be planning a large recreational and residential project near Willcox has been accused of using fraud and deception to sell its lots.

The state attorney general's suit, filed in Maricopa County

Two Sulphur Springs Valley employes take the aerial basket to their job on an electrical pole. The basket was among a host of new equipment purchased by the cooperative during its continual expansion.

Construction begins on the new $262 million expansion at Arizona Electric Power Cooperative near Cochise in 1976. Construction on the power plant was expected to take about three years and provide up to 500 construction jobs during that time.

The old Johnson Mine was revitalized in 1974 by Cyprus Mining Co., which became a major employer in the area. The mine primarily produces copper--the same mineral it once produced before being closed down decades ago.

superior court last week, named as defendants Universal Properties Corp., one of eight subsidiaries of Cavanagh Communities Corp. of Miami, Fla.

The lawsuit stems from the development--or lack of it--at Twin Lakes southeast of Willcox.

If published reports are correct, more than 2,000 buyers could have paid between $6 million and $10 million for lots on the development.

Records from the Arizona Real Estate Department indicated that the subdivision was divided into 4,175 lots.

The records also disclosed that the state agency on Jan. 5, 1973, voided its permission to Universal Properties to sell lots in several units of the subdivision because of an inadequate water supply.

May 6, 1976

Construction on key portions of a $224 million expansion at the Apache Generating Station should begin within 10 weeks, an official of Arizona Electric Power Cooperative (AEPCO) says.

Dexter Smith, AEPCO's general manager, was interviewed after the Rural Electrification Administration announced last week that the power cooperative's application for a $261 million loan had been approved.

About $224 million would be used for expanding the Apache Generating Station 10 miles southwest of here, $33.5 million for improving and building transmission lines and the remainder to cover miscellaneous expenses.

Although the three-year construction project involves about 40 separate contracts, Smith said several major ones would be left this summer.

The thrust of the construction revolves around building two, 175-megawatt generating units. When completed, they will triple AEPCO's generating capacity.

AEPCO is the generation and distribution cooperative for five cooperatives which provide retail power to consumers. The five are Duncan Valley Electric, Sulphur Springs Valley Electric, Graham County Electric, Trico Electric and Mohave Valley Electric.

May 13, 1976

A temporary order giving farmers a higher priority for natural gas could expire in five weeks, leaving the agriculture industry here in the same plight it was a year ago, officials say.

The Federal Power Commission, which regulates natural gas distribution, last year placed farmers in a higher natural gas priority.

The federal agency's action came after farmers here formed the Arizona Fuel Users Association and fought the change. Groups elsewhere also called on the FPC to modify its original decision that farmers had no more right to natural gas than industrial consumers.

Harold Wilson, chairman of the 125-member fuel users group here, said curtailments during the growing season could put farmers out of business.

''With the electrical costs increasing and the high cost of converting to fuels other than natural gas, we could be put out of business,'' Wilson said.

Although some farmers use electrical irrigation pumps in Cochise County, natural gas is considered more economical by agriculture experts, and about 1,200 pumps in this area are powered by it.

May 20, 1976

Winds gusting to 52 miles an hour hit Willcox about 5:30 p.m. Monday, but damage to buildings and crops apparently was light.

Fred Buck, who operates the National Weather Service station in Willcox, said the winds appeared to be the worst this year. Earlier in the year, winds were clocked at 51 miles an hour at the airport.

Buck said the temperature dropped 16 degrees in 30 minutes between 5:30 p.m. and 6 p.m. Monday during the wind and dust storm.

Although Willcox received only a trace of rain, several outlying areas, including Cochise and the Kansas Settlement received heavy rain about 6 p.m. Some hail was reported.

Carmy Page of the University of Arizona's cooperative extension service said Tuesday that he had not received reports of any crop damage, although he expected some did occur.

May 27, 1976

Bill Morales officially took over Monday as city police chief, replacing acting chief Boyd Beckstead.

The 32-year-old Morales has been with the police force in Huachuca City since 1974. Before that, he served with the Phoenix Police Department and with the military police.

He also has served with the Army at Fort Huachuca and various other posts, including Vietnam, where he commanded an airborne ranger battalion.

Morales has studied at the University of Arizona, Arizona State University, University of Maryland and University of Munich.

Beckstead served as acting chief following the resignation of Robert Ward as police chief in early April.

Aug. 5, 1976

Durum wheat is used to make spaghetti, macaroni and pasta. Farmers in this area expected it to make money. For some, it did. For most, it didn't.

Durum wheat is primarily grown for export. But it is only acceptable if it meets certain standards. Farmers in this area had problems with yellow berry and yields.

Figures from private grain companies are not available, but a farm co-operative here contracted for 4600 acres of the wheat to be grown, according to Harold Wilson, manager of the Grain Co-op of Arizona.

Last fall, the co-operative offered contracts to farmers for seven and one half dollars a hundred pounds. Since this was nearly half again as much as feeder wheat was bringing,

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there was great interest in the new wheat, Wilson said.

There were problems. The Department of Soil, Water and Engineering of the University of Arizona cautioned in a bulletin that "yellow berry" was the chief one. Yellow berry is a spot in the grain that is low in protein, supposedly caused by overwatering.

Wilson said the experience of farmers here has proven otherwise. "The advice about overwatering was nonsense. The durum wheat needs more water than other wheats and it also needs a great deal of nitrogen."

Dr. Robert Dennis, extension agronomist at the University of Arizona, agreed.

"The literature could have been interpreted to mean that excess irrigation washes nitrogen out of the roots," Dennis said, adding that problems with yellow berry are related to nitrogen.

Aug. 26, 1976

An estimated 1,600 students, including the largest enrollment in high school history, were expected to attend classes when school began Wednesday.

Supt. Ben Travis, interviewed a day before classes began, said more than 520 students had pre-enrolled for high school. However, he said, exact enrollment figures would not be available until after Wednesday.

By contrast, 11 months ago the high school had just enough students--around 430--to throw it into Class A sports competition. Previously, the high school had competed with smaller Class B schools.

Travis said some of the increased enrollment could be attributed to work beginning on the $220 million expansion of the Apache Generating Station southwest of Willcox.

The superintendent said the district would have 13 new teachers this year. More details on the new employees will be carried in a later issue of the newspaper.

Students and teachers also returned to several new improvements to the school buildings and facilities this year.

A new sprinkler system, fencing and landscaping were added over the summer at the elementary school, while most of the remaining work consisted of inside remodeling to other buildings.

Oct. 7, 1976

Rex Allen, the country-western star who for 30 years promoted Arizona in his performances, returns to Willcox this weekend for the 25th and final official visit.

But Rex made it clear in an interview this week that it was important that people understood why he wouldn't be back again in 1977.

"In my heart, I know it has been long enough," he said. "I don't want to end up an old silver-haired guy in a rocking chair still coming back."

And that, in effect, summed up why the man who wasn't born far from the town's only stoplight won't be coming back next year.

"It has been a beautiful thing," Rex said. "I bet even the Guiness Book of World Records never heard of a hometown honoring a boy for 25 years in a row. It's just my favorite thing of the whole year.

"I want to come back, and I plan to do that. Maybe I'll ride in the parade. But I don't want to be responsible for getting the show together."

In the 25 years that Rex has returned to Willcox, there never has been a professional colleague who has done it for profit.

"These people who have come with me all these years have done it for nothing, for no money, just expenses," he said.

Rex Allen has done it for nothing too, when it comes to money. But, he notes, the celebration and community have given him more than he ever gave the town.

"I may just move back here someday," he said. "I've got property at Turkey Creek and on Ft. Grant Road. I may just move over here. It's like the salmon coming home to spawn. I'm drawn back to Willcox. That's home."

But Rex Allen Days--one way or another--will continue.

Ken Dunlap, head of the organization which coordinates the annual event, said he sincerely hoped that eldest son Rex Allen Jr. would want to return once a year to Willcox.

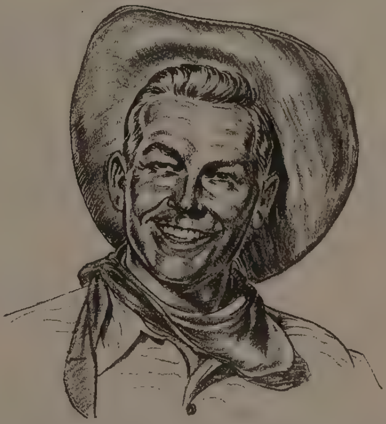
"We just can't let Rex Allen Days be gone forever," he said. "Rex Allen has three very talented sons and one very talented daughter. We'll do everything in our power to insure that the family continues Rex Allen Days."

Rex Allen Days all started back in 1951. "A photographer in town by the name of Johnson, had the idea for the first Rex Allen Days. He thought it would be a shot in the arm for the town.

The 1976 Rex Allen Days Queen and her Princesses wave to the crowd during the parade.

Rex Allen and Pedro Gonzales-Gonzales walked arm-in-arm during the Rex Allen Days Homecoming Parade several years ago. Pedro has been accompanying Rex to the annual event for years and the city named an alley in Willcox in his honor.

Rex Allen



Rex Allen Jr. greets onlookers during the 25th annual Rex Allen Days parade in Willcox during 1976. Rex Jr. was expected replace his father at the annual festival, which is held annually in honor of Rex Allen. Rex Jr.'s dad, however, said he felt 25 years of returning to Willcox was enough, and that he would like to slow down a little.

Here's the Valley National Bank's float during the 1976 Rex Allen Days Homecoming parade. The float, one of dozens in the parade, walked off with one of the top prizes that year.

ENROUTE TO THE SCENIC
CHIRICAHUA NATIONAL MONUMENT
BE SURE TO SEE

CHIRICAHUA TRAIL RANCHES

The problems of land developers are periodically in the news. In spite of these reports, most people still want to own their own land.

We believe **Chiricahua Trail Ranches** is an excellent project and think you will agree. When looking for land, ask a lot of questions and get the answers. Many of these answers will be provided in the Arizona State Department of Real Estates' Public Report on Unsubdivided Land. Every development is required by the State to have this report. Our report number is #8572 and is available at the on-site information office.

As a short outline, here are some things to consider when purchasing land, plus specific answers regarding these factors at **Chiricahua Trail Ranches.**

1. Always personally *see the land*. This is one of our requirements.
2. **"40 Acre Parcels"** — all parcels at **Chiricahua Trail Ranches** and other "40 acre developments" are at least 36 acres or larger, offering the maximum in privacy.
3. **Roads** — all parcels have frontage on a 28 foot bladed road. Roads in all **Chiricahua Trail Ranches** units except the Apache Unit are maintained by a Property Owners' Association. At present, a road grader is on the property at all times.
4. **Water** — a critical question with Arizona property. There have been 10 wells drilled in the development. Two are owned by the Property Owners' Association. The others are private wells drilled by parcel owners. Some parcels are available that have an interest in an existing well — ask about these.
5. **Electricity** — over 5 miles of electric line are on the property. Several parcels on the electric line are now for sale.
6. **Other services** — many developments are in a remote part of the state. While **Chiricahua Trail Ranches** is in the country, it is less than 20 miles on a paved state road from our entrance to the town of Willcox with its shops, schools, hospital, churches, etc.
7. **Property Owners' Association** — a question to ask is; After all the parcels are sold and the the developer is gone, who takes care of the roads and the Association wells? The Property Owners' Association was created with this question in mind. The current minimal dues of $1.00 per acre per year assures maintenance of these improvements.
8. **Financial responsibility** of the developer. Ours is an unusual development because the developer owns the property for sale free and clear. No liens, mortgages, or release clauses exist. This is added protection for you. Also, the property is in trust with Arizona Title Insurance & Trust Company — you make your monthly payments directly to them and you will be furnished with a Title Insurance Policy by them. All Agreements for Sale are recorded in the Cochise County Recorder's office, for your protection. When your property is paid for, you receive a Special Warranty Deed.
9. **Scenic** — **Chiricahua Trail Ranches** offers hillside parcels with fantastic views, rolling countryside or level farmable land. It is located in a beautiful part of the State. Twenty miles down the road is one of the loveliest areas of Arizona — The Chiricahua National Monument, a great recreation area for camping, picnicing, hiking. When you come to visit **Chiricahua Trail Ranches** pack a picnic lunch and head for the Chiricahua National Monument.
10. Our *prices* start from $275 per acre, about $11,000 for 40 acres. You may put as little as 5% cash down payment, and take up to 20 years to pay the balance. With 5% down the interest rate is 7%, monthly payments $81.03, total interest paid over 20 years $8997.20 Total payments $19,447.20 Deferred Price $19,997.20 With more cash down we offer interest rates as low as 5-3/4%.

You may have other questions that we have not answered. Just give us a call. As we will not sell sight unseen, come and see **Chiricahua Trail Ranches.** We believe you'll enjoy the trip and like the property.

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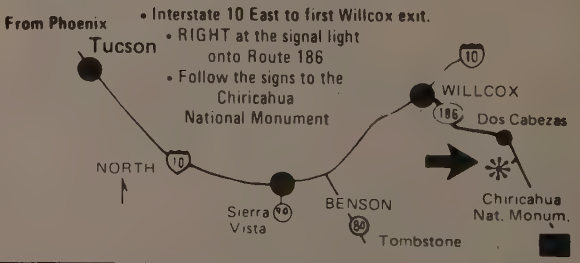
Tucson Call 624-3611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• RIGHT at the signal light onto Route 186
• Follow the signs to the Chiricahua National Monument
Tucson
10
WILLCOX
186
Dos Cabezas
NORTH
10
Sierra Vista
90
BENSON
80
Tombstone
Chiricahua Nat. Monum.

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Farming Today/7

Local Farmers Gain National Prestige

Story and Photos by Justin Scharff

When the agricultural history of Willcox is written for the 20th century, as undoubtedly it will be, the story of its sorghum yields should provide an interesting chapter.

This area produces more than 40 percent of all the sorghum grown in Arizona. In 1975, for example, Cochise County produced 128,000 tons of sorghum on 61,000 acres compared to the state's 314,160 tons from 165,000 acres.

In recent years sorghum has generated more cash income for Willcox farmers than any other agricultural crop. What makes this possible?

Nation-wide sorghum growing contests such as those sponsored by Funk Seeds International, Inc. of Bloomington, Illinois shed some light on this subject. Top honors are awarded those farmers who produce the greatest tonnage from a measured plot of ground.

In every one of the last five years Willcox growers have scored at or near the top in this contest. In 1971 the state winner was Boyd Smith and in 1973 it was Jack Johnson. In both 1972 and 1974 the national winners were Noble Buckner and Elbert Kidd as were Ray and Nick Linton in 1975.

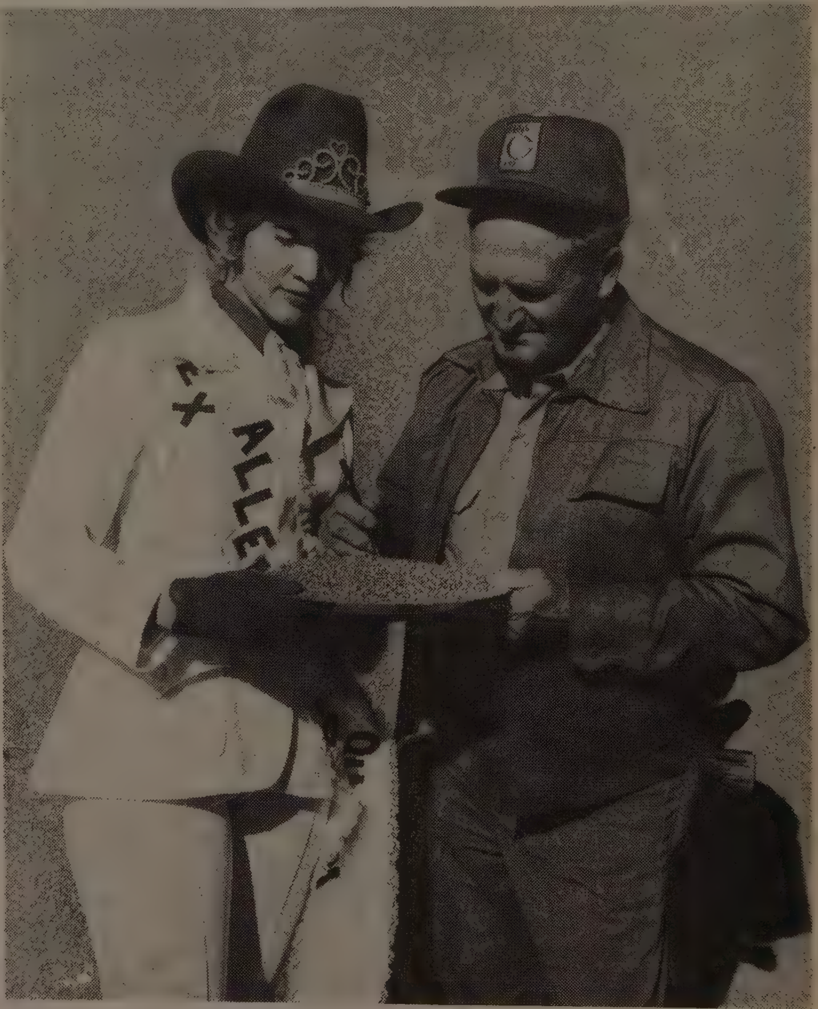
Buckner and Kidd's yield of 10,180 pounds per acre in 1972 was the highest ever achieved in this contest. And keep in mind that they competed against growers in every major sorghum growing section of the United States. Do these farmers have a secret for growing sorghum?

Smith, Johnson, Buckner, Kidd and Ray and Nick Linton all agree on the key to success...experience, favorable growing conditions, the right variety and the willingness to try something new and different.

Their combined experience totals more than 100 years. Their demands from Dame Nature are nominal...''just a little luck.'' For variety they all planted the same one...G-522. But before selecting it they evaluated dozens of different varieties in their own test plots in a joint venture with Germain's, Inc. a century old western seed firm.

What these farmers are accomplishing here in Willcox is making agricultural history. Perhaps, when the final chapter is written for the 20th century, Willcox farmers will be mentioned not only for their top yields, but also for keeping alive the pioneering spirit that has made America great.

Vikki Holcomb, 1976 Rex Allen Days Rodeo Queen, admires a head of G-522 sorghum.
--Photo, courtesy Germain's.



Ray Linton who, with his son, Nick, won the 1975 nation-wide sorghum growing contest sponsored by Funk Seeds International, Inc. shows Vikki Holcomb, 1976 Rex Allen Days Rodeo Queen, top quality of G-522 sorghum which yielded slightly more than 10,000 pounds per acre--approximately double the state average.
--Photo, courtesy Germain's, Inc.

Joe Wasson of Bowie displays some of the peaches he grows in his orchard at Bowie. Northern Cochise County long has been a prime area for raising peaches and other fruits.

This Willcox area woman will have squash all winter, it seems. There were grown in 1974 and similar crops are not exceptionally uncommon in the area.

Floyd Robbs, left, and Bob Reno display some of the produce they grew. Floyd is one of the top farmers in the area, which generally specializes in maize, cotton and related products. Produce, however, is grown in the area too.

Juanita Kidd works in her garden during the warm summer months. Mrs. Kidd is among a host of persons in the Willcox area who plant gardens to provide their own vegetables.

SCS Guards Soil, Water And Range

The Willcox-San Simon Natural Resource Conservation District was formed in 1964. The Willcox.-San Simon NRCD exists to better meet recognized resource conservation problems. The organization enables landowners and operators to work together more effectively in activating needed conservation plans.

As an organized legal subdivision of the State, the Willcox-San Simon NRCD is in a position to obtain technical assistance from the Soil Conservation Service. Congress has authorized the USDA Soil Conservation Service to assist the Willcox-San Simon NRCD. The SCS technicians work with District cooperators in carrying out voluntary programs.

Willcox-San Simon NRCD is concerned with making the best use of land and water resources through the voluntary development of sound resource conservation and development programs. The District is authorized to do what needs to be done to achieve the conservation of soil, water and related resources.

Two prime concerns of the District are irrigation water management and proper range use. The SCS field office aids NRCD cooperators in developing farm and ranch conservation plans which are made up of the cooperator's decisions to produce more and protect more.

The SCS has leadership for USDA in Resource Conservation and Development Projects. Coronado Resource and Development Project is locally initiated, sponsored and directed. The Project provides a base for people to come together to plan and carry out actions that will make this area a better place in which to live, work and play. This Project helps us take care of our natural resources and, at the same time, improve the community's economy.

The soil, water, range, and forest resources of the United States are the foundation blocks in the structure of our national economy. From that base comes our food; the bulk of our agricultural, municipal and industrial water supplies; most of our clothing, paper, and other fiber; much of our shelter; and a large part of the public's opportunities for outdoor recreation.

How well we protect and improve these resources has a direct and immediate bearing on the incomes and standard of living of the people who live on the farms and ranches. Our prosperity and the soil and water conservation work we do is reflected, in turn, in the well-being of all Americans.

Willcox farmers are entering a critical period in history. Low irrigation efficiencies can no longer be tolerated in the face of increasing water pumping costs. The ability of our farmers to adapt to farm production cost increases in currently being tested. Many irrigators have turned to elaborate sprinkler systems in search of higher irrigation efficiency. Others are closely evaluating irrigation timing. We trust that our farmers will prove worthy of the challenge as they have in previous difficult times.

New cooperator, Richard Smith, prepares to measure the quantity of water that his well yields in order to evaluate the efficiency of his irrigation system. --SCS photo.

Bean picker in the Kansas Settlement, Jerry Atchison [left] of Atchison & Lee Seed & Warehouse and Kansas Settlement farmer Harold Lewis.

New power shovel in action

The Cyprus Johnson Copper Mine is proud to be a part of the growth and development of the greater Willcox area. We are contributing payroll, taxes, and technology to your area, and take great pleasure in the steady growth this community has made since its incorporation in May, 1915.

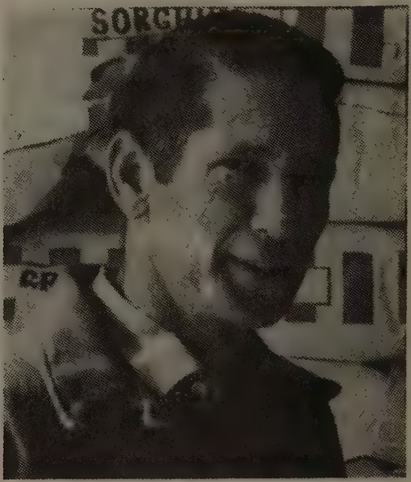
Cyprus Johnson Copper Co.

A Division of Cyprus Mines Corporation

Six Growers in area win 'firsts' in Funk Seeds national sorghum growing contest in recent years

Boyd Smith was the Arizona state winner and national first runner-up in the nation-wide sorghum growing contest sponsored by Funk Seeds International, Inc. in 1971. His average yield on a measured 25 acre plot was 9,624 pounds per acre.

Jack Johnson was the Arizona state winner in Funk's national sorghum growing contest in 1973. His yield averaged 10,172 pounds per acre--approximately two and one-half times greater than the state average.



In 1972, Noble Buckner and his nephew, Elbert Kidd, won top honors in Funk's nation-wide sorghum growing contest. Their prize-winning yield of 10,080 pounds per acre was the highest ever achieved in this contest.

Buckner and Kidd repeated their 1972 performance in 1974 when they again won top honors in Funk's sorghum growing contest, competing against growers from every major sorghum producing center in the United States.

Nick Linton, Vikki Holcomb, 1976 Rex Allen Days Rodeo Queen, Ray Linton and the Linton dog, Amytons Nino Cochise [from top to bottom], pose for a group picture on the John Deere tractor at the Linton ranch near Willcox. The Lintons won the 1975 nation-wide sorghum growing contest sponsored by Funk Seeds International, Inc.

[Photo, courtesy Germain's, Inc.]

Funk's G-522

The Prize Winning Sorghum

Arizona growers who have won state and national honors during the past four years in Funk's nation-wide sorghum growing contest have two things in common--all farm in the Willcox area and all selected the same variety--G-522.

These growers have brought considerable fame to this part of Arizona and have contributed significantly to the area's reputation as perhaps the finest sorghum growing section in the United States.

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Industry Today/8

APS Grows With Arizona's Needds

April 29, 1886, the Phoenix City Council granted a gas and electric franchise to Hutchlon Ohnick, a Japanese-born immigrant who first had been attracted to the Arizona Territory by the silver strike at Tombstone. The franchise marked the beginning of the first predecessor company of Arizona Public Service Company.

Ohnick's utility, the Phoenix Illuminating Gas and Electric Company, extended gas lines to the town's business houses and, November 29, 1886, Ohnick began manufacturing and selling gas. Phoenicians milled through the gas-lighted stores, more to admire the bright gas lights than to buy merchandise.

With gas illumination an accepted fact, Ohnick promptly notified the City Council he was prepared to furnish gas for street lighting. The first street lamp in Phoenix was installed at the intersection of Washington and Center Streets. Citizens were convinced the long dark nights on Phoenix streets were over.

Within a short time, electric street lights also were made available to Phoenix residents. The Phoenix Electric Light Company became a competitor to Ohnick in 1888. But gas lighting remained popular, and Ohnick's business continued to grow. Keeping pace with increasing demands for electricity and gas caused the companies to join forces and, by 1921, the utilities had become the Central Arizona Light and Power Company (Calapco).

A new era loomed for Arizona in 1931 when natural gas was brought to Douglas by the Western Gas Company, a predecessor of El Paso Natural Gas Company. Two years later, Calapco laid plans to bring natural gas to Phoenix. The job involved building a 215-mile-long pipeline from Douglas to Phoenix, via Tucson. The natural gas would travel 650 miles from the gas fields of Jal, New Mexico.

About 1,000 men were needed for this huge project, which required about 360 car loads of steel pipe. Laying the pipe across Arizona's mountains, as well as through river beds, made the project seem unending. At last, February 10, 1934, a giant torch of burning natural gas flamed against the skyline of Phoenix, signaling the completion of the task.

Meanwhile, to the south, several small, isolated utilities has merged, in 1925, to form Arizona Edison Company. The company was serving electricity to Globe, Miami, Bisbee, Douglas, Yuma, and the Casa Grande Valley, Service was

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Willcox Paul Lee Elfrida

being provided even to El Tigre Mining Company, 75 miles south of the border, in Sonora, Mexico.

An outgrowth of the state's population surge was the formation of Arizona Public Service Company as a statewide utility. APS was formed through a merger of Arizona Edison and the Central Arizona Light and Power Company (Calapco), March 1, 1952. Nine months later, the Northern Arizona Light and Power Company, a Calapco subsidiary, became an integral part of APS.

The same year, APS extended natural gas service to Willcox and the Sulphur Springs Valley. It was the area's agriculture, and a need for an economical fuel for irrigation pumps, rather than street lights, that made natural gas attractive to Willcox area residents.

The first major gas distribution system was developed in nearby Bowie. During the next decade, service was expanded to meet the needs of farmers in the Kansas Settlement are.

As the agricultural industry in the Willcox area expanded, so did the need for additional irrigation water. In the early 1960's, APS installed approximately 100 miles of gas line in one year, just to meet increased demands of gas for irrigation pumping. During this time service also was extended to the Pearce, Stewart, Elfrida, and San Simon areas.

Today, APS provides natural gas service to approximately 768 pumps in the Willcox area for irrigating for maize, cotton, lettuce, and sugar beet crops.

Willcox is part of the utility's Cochise Division. Division Manager is Glen Daly, and division headquarters are located in Douglas.

Bill Crow, Willcox area manager for APS, and Rouchelle Poulsen, Bart Williamson, and Bob Smeltzer help meet APS customers' needs in the Willcox area.

APS has grown with the state to become Arizona's largest natural gas and electric utility, service 336,839 natural gas and 331,382 electric customers. A total of 3,906 people are employed by the utility, working to provide energy to homes, businesses, farms, and industries. And APS' service area has grown from the first street light at Center and Washington in Phoenix, to include 11 of the state's 14 counties and extending over 50,000 square miles.

Today, natural gas power 786 irrigation pumps, in the Willcox area, providing water to maize, cotton, lettuce, and sugar beet crops.
--APS photo.

Valley National Bank's First 40 Years

On a hot, dusty day in June of 1933, two Willcox cattlemen went to Phoenix for advice on how to save their bank--the Riggs Bank--from closing forever.

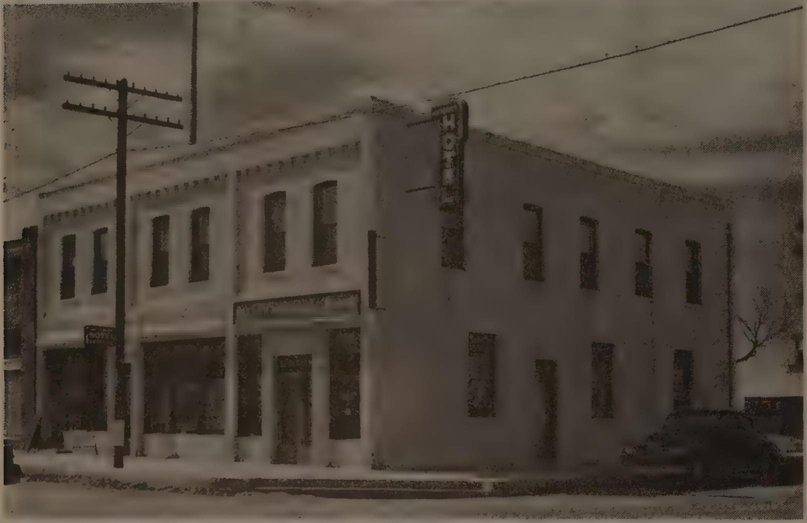
After hours of consultation, they returned to Willcox, pledged over their ranches, and raised enough additional funds to reopen that family bank as the Bank of Willcox.

The banker they consulted was Walter Bimson, one of the pioneers of banking in Arizona, who was then president of Valley National Bank of Arizona.

Three years later, in 1936, an agreement was reached for the Bank of Willcox to join the Valley Bank as its 18th office in a growing statewide system.

This June 13, Valley Bank will celebrate that merger which began a 40-year relationship during which the bank has shared much of its history with the citizens of Willcox and Cochise County, according to Harold Skinner, manager of the Willcox office.

Valley Bank is a direct descendant of the Gila Valley Bank, which began in 1899 in Solomonville. Capital funding to start that small bank was only $25,000.



The Valley Bank Building in Willcox as it looked in 1952 is shown above. The bank was located at the corner of Maley and Haskell in a building formerly occupied by the Riggs Bank. *--VNB Photo.*

Pictured above is the Valley Bank of Willcox as it appears today. Modern drive-thru teller service makes banking both fast and convenient. *--VNB Photo.*

The bank has grown with Arizona and has brought many important banking innovations to Arizonans. Valley Bank developed the first branch banking system in the state.

The latest innovation in a long series of banking "firsts" is the Valley National Banking Card which offers a unique form of check cashing identification because "it's you." This card was the first in the nation to feature a photograph of the cardholder as the most important element of the front on the card.

"In 1922, a far-reaching bank merger took place, bringing together the Gila Valley Bank and Trust Company and the Valley Bank of Phoenix, which were then the two largest banks in Arizona," Skinner added.

A number of other banks were subsequently merged or purchased, the most important acquisition being that of the Consolidated National Bank of Tucson in 1935. This again brought together Arizona's two largest banks. Shortly thereafter, a national banking charter was taken out and the present name, the Valley National Bank of Arizona, was adopted.

In 1966, Valley Bank became the first bank in the eight-state Rocky Mountain area to report deposits of more than $1 billion. At year-end 1975 the bank reported deposits of more than $2.6 billion and total resources of $3.2 billion and was the 34th largest commercial bank in the United States.

Valley Bank now operates over 160 offices located in more than 50 communities in all 14 Arizona counties.

The present Willcox Valley Bank Office at 150 W. Grant opened in August, 1966, and brought the first drive-in lane to Cochise County and the first public community room in Willcox.

Old Johnson Mine Booms Again

The Cyprus Mine, located at the site of the old Johnson Camp, uses all the most modern and safe mining equipment. Pictured above are some of the buildings and equipment of the mine, now employing over 60 persons.

One of the economic highlights for the Willcox-Cochise-Sunsites today is the modern mining operation now underway at the Cyprus Johnson Copper Company mine at the old Johnson Camp.

The new mining operation formally began production in March, 1975, with a goal of between 25,000 to 27,000 pounds of copper per day from approximately 4,000 tons of low grade oxide ore.

''Today we're producing 27,000 pounds of copper per day, and meeting this full capacity goal practically 100%,'' Joseph O. Sierakoski, resident manager, told the Sulphur Springs Valley News.

The mining facility is located just off Interstate 10 between Willcox and Benson, and opened after a $7 million expansion program.

William Rundle of Tucson, a Vice President of Cyprus, described the Johnson operaation as a ''miniature Bagdad, since he was referring to the highly successful solvent extraction winning plant constructed by Bagdad Copper Company at its Bagdad Mine.

Approximately 60 persons are now employed at the Cyprus Johnson Mine.

''We're indeed proud to be a part of the growth and development of the greater Willcox-Cochise-Sunsites area, contributing payroll, taxes, and technology to the area,'' Resident Manager Sierakoski said.

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Lyle L. Donovan, General Manager

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Employees kiddies enjoy big truck at Cyprus Johnson open house.

The Lavender Pit in Bisbee is quiet, now that copper mining has been discontinued there.

Developments Today/9

Sunizona Valley Continues Growth

Pictured above is the entrance to the Commercial Building at Sunizona, Arizona.

Sunizona, a thriving, growing community some 31 miles south of Willcox, located at the Intersection of 666 and 181, is one of several communities vital to the economy of Willcox.

The Sunizona community runs about eight miles along the Sunizona Valley, and varies in width from a quarter of a mile to two miles.

It was founded by a California corporation, the Willen Corporation, in 1962.

Today, over 150 families live in the Sunizona Valley and immediately adjacent to the valley.

Sunizona home of Bill and Susan Bond is shown above. Bill Bond is employed as the head teacher at nearby Pearce School.

Also available at Sunizona is a modern cafe and motel, under the management of Alice Easthouse.

Building of some kind is always underway in booming Sunizona. Shown above is a house under construction by Tom Turkette.

Sunsites Offers Almost Everything

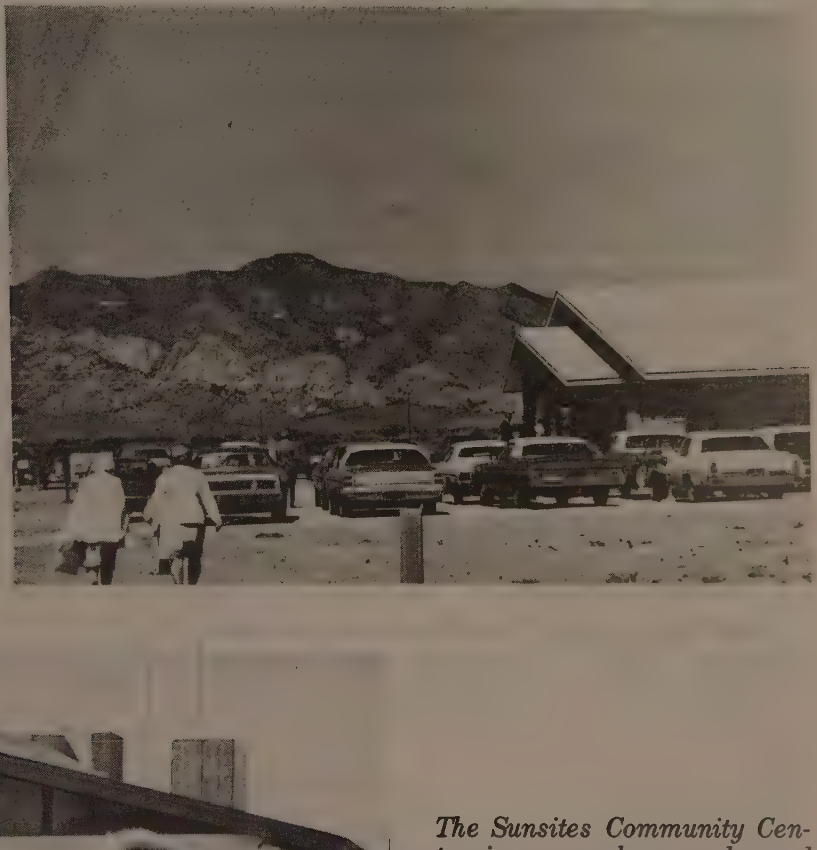
You can do just about anything in Sunsites Shopping Village, fill your tank, get your hair done, have a drink or a good hot meal, buy a $1,500 turquoise necklace, shop for groceries, mail a letter or do your banking! And much, much more.

Golf at Sunsites is a year-round thing, with two membership/fee courses - an Executive Par 3 and a newer regulation nine.

Housing at Sunsites runs the full gamut of heart's desire of singles to large families.

Available on daily, short-term or longer-term basis at Sunsites are hotel/apartment units such as those shown at left, and the facilities offered by Motel 9 and the Sunsites Mobile Park.

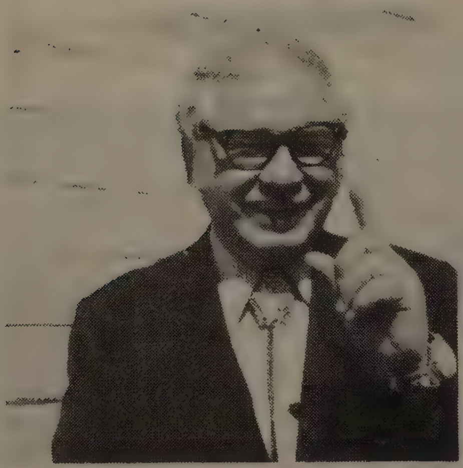
The Community Church is one of three at Sunsites. The Catholic Church, St. Jude's Mission, is only 1.5 miles north on Highway 666.



The Sunsites Community Center, in use nearly every day and night of the year, was focal point for much of the activity surrounding the Sulphur Springs Bicentennial Celebration. Authentic Indian dances delighted the crowd.

BEN BROWN'S

Cochise County Realty



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They are making more people, but no more land!

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84% of Arizona land is owned by state or federal government--only 16% is privately owned. Better BUY NOW if you hope to get your share of this small piece of pie!

For Additional Details **Please Phone Collect** **602-826-3334**

One good investment can be worth a lifetime of labor

Richland Ranchettes Is Still Thriving

Richland General Store and offices of Ben Brown Realty.

One of the most attractive communities in the area is Richland Ranchettes. It is located against the remote, towering background of historic Cochise Stronghold.

The community has a fresh, unspoiled look, free of the smog and pollution affecting most of the metropolitan areas in our nation.

The residents pride themselves on their orchards and gardens, including peach, pear, apple, and pecan.

They raise such farm products as alfalfa, chili peppers, cotton, pinto beans, grain, corn and sugar beets.

Their gardens produce tomatoes, beans, peas, corn, melons, strawberries, and peanuts extremely well.

The Richland Ranchettes area is acclaimed one of the healthiest areas in the nation for pure air plus year-around climate. It is beneficial to persons suffering from arthritis, respiratory trouble, and many varieties of poor health.

The people are friendly and the atmosphere pleasant and relaxing. They work together to help each other find a more joyful life.

Within a day's drive from the Ranchettes, there is something for everyone: history buff, palentologist, mineral and gem collector, bird watcher, antique collector, fishing and hunting enthusiast, or whatever.

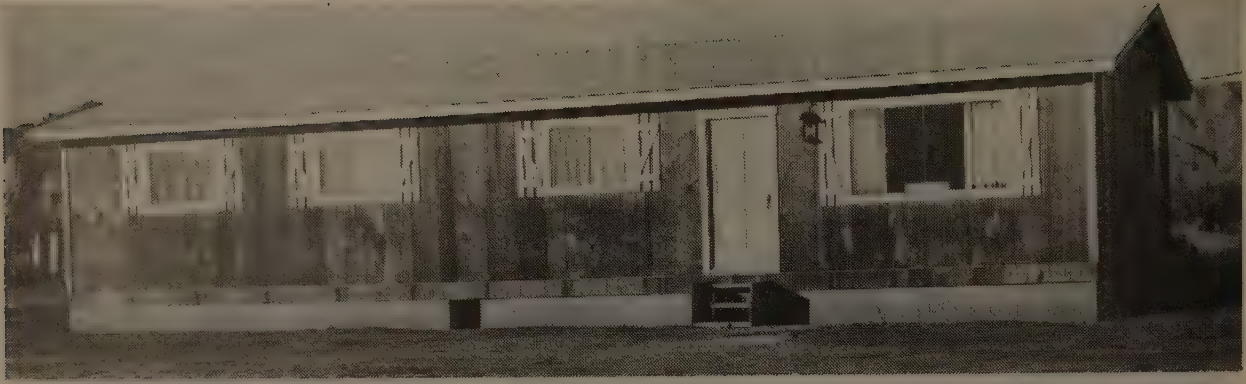
Doctors are available in both Benson and Willcox, with well equipped hospitals. In nearby Sunsites, there is a Physician's Assistant, with a well equipped office and clinic.

Nearby in Cochise is located the Cochise Hotel, named for the famous Chiricahua Apache chief who died June 8, 1874. The construction of this hotel began in 1882. A railroad station was established in 1887, and it was in 1889 that Bert Alvord, lawman-outlaw, planned the robbery of a Southern Pacific Railroad Train. In 1903 the hotel served as the depot for the Wells Fargo office, which was located across the street. The Cochise Post Office was established August 28, 1886, and Silas H. Gould served as its first postmaster.

The hotel is furnished with victorian furniture, Franklin stove, and brass beds. It is owned by Tom and Elizabeth Husband.

Delicious food is served in its dining room by Lily Harrington.

Another lovely Richland Ranchettes home.



Mrs. Wehrle home
[Bullock Modular Homes sold by Ben Brown]

Ray Winegar home

Kudrle home

The Markle home

Business Directory

AGRICULTURE SALES

CONKLIN CONTRACTORS
590 S. Railroad Ave., Willcox 384-4250
384-2459

ARTS & CRAFTS

HITCHING POST
Railroad Ave., Willcox 384-2091

AUTO DEALERS - SALES

CORONADO EQUIPMENT - DATSUN
E. Maley, Willcox 384-2553

FRONTIER FORD SALES
715 S. Haskell, Willcox 384-2216

GALLO CHEVROLET-OLDS
466 S. Haskell, Willcox 384-2203

JOE THATCHER AUTO SALES
734 S. Haskell, Willcox 384-4281

AUTO PARTS

ARCHIE'S AUTO PARTS
222 North Haskell, Willcox 384-2282

VALLEY FARM PARTS
650 S. Arizona, Willcox 384-2287

AUTO REPAIR

B & J AUTOMOTIVE
440 N. Railroad Ave., Willcox 384-4188

T & O ENTERPRISES
522 N. Haskell, Willcox 384-3271

BOB JOHNSON AUTO REPAIR
255 W. Grant, Willcox 384-3797

BANKS

UNION BANK
173 S. Haskell, Willcox 384-3531

VALLEY NATIONAL BANK
150 W. Grant, Willcox 384-3511

BUILDING SUPPLIES

WILLCOX LUMBER CO.
200 N. Railroad Ave., Willcox 384-2294

CAMPGROUNDS

KOA
Clifford & Audrey Reimer & Kathy, Hosts
Fort Grant Road & I-10, Willcox 384-3212

CATALOG SALES

MONTGOMERY WARD CATALOG SALES
Maley Plaza, Willcox 384-3581

SEARS AUTHORIZED CATALOG SALES
173 N. Haskell, Willcox 384-2261

CATTLE

ROBBS BROS.
Kansas Settlement, Willcox 384-3654

CHEMICALS-AGRICULTURE

WESTERN FARM SERVICE
Kansas Settlement Road, Willcox 384-3448

THE LAURENCE CO.
John & Millie Laurence Willcox 384-2784

ARIZ. FEEDS AG. CHEM DIV.
515 S. Railroad Ave., Willcox 384-2264

CONCRETE - READY MIX

HAMILTON SAND & GRAVEL
Hamilton Road, Willcox 384-2582

WILLCOX ROCK AND SAND
770 S. Cochise, Willcox 384-2181

CONSTRUCTION SERVICES

4-T CONSTRUCTION
Licensed & Bonded
237 N. Curtis, Willcox 384-3871

CROP DUSTING

WILLCOX FLYING SERVICE
Hugh Yeates
Kansas Settlement, Willcox 384-3054

DEPARTMENT STORES

HUFFMAN'S TOGGERY
128 E. Maley, Willcox 384-2291

Department Stores (continued)

UNITED DEPT. STORE
115 S. Haskell Ave., Willcox 384-2716

WILLCOX COMMERCIAL CO.
Historical Railroad Ave., Willcox 384-2448

RASCO
Dunlap Plaza, Willcox 384-4150

DRIVE-IN LIQUORS

MILO'S DRIVE-IN LIQUORS
144 S. Haskell, Willcox 384-2866

DRUG STORES

AUSTIN'S DRUG STORE
100 S. Haskell, Willcox 384-2321

ELECTRIC APPLIANCES

ARMSDEN'S ELECTRIC
Frontage Rd., Sunsites Pearce 826-3322

ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS

J. K. PARMELEE
ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR
320 W. Grant, Willcox 384-4231

ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT

L & W TOY AND SOUND CENTER
Dunlap Plaza, Willcox 384-2715

ENGINES

COCHISE ENGINE CO.
E. Hwy 186, Willcox 384-2791

FARM MACHINERY

GALLO MACHINERY CO.
E. Hwy 86, Willcox 384-4221

CURTIS EQUIPMENT
Hwy 186, Willcox 384-4247

FLOOR COVERING-DRAPES-FURNITURE

CUSTOM INTERIORS
220 S. Haskell, Willcox 384-2551

FLORIST

WAGON WHEEL FLOWER SHOP
145 N. Curtis, Willcox 384-2426

FRATERNAL ORGANIZATIONS

ELKS CLUB - B.P.O.E. 2131
247 E. Stewart, Willcox 384-3100

KIWANIS CLUB OF WILLCOX
Tuesday Noon at Country Kitchen

WILLCOX LIONS CLUB
Thursday 7:30 p.m. - Elks

FUNERAL DIRECTOR

WESTLAWN CHAPEL & MORTUARY
Dale & Sybil Carlstedt Willcox 384-2413

GIFT SHOPS

GENEVA'S HALLMARK SHOP
Dunlap Plaza, Willcox 384-2929

HORSES

POLLY KORTSEN
APPALOOSA HORSES & POA PONIES
North of Willcox 384-2524

INDIAN ARTIFACTS

COCHISE INDIAN TRADING POST
103 Frontage Rd., Sunsites 826-3571

INSURANCE

THE EXPANSION
134 N. Haskell, Willcox 384-2617

FARM BUREAU INSURANCE
365 N. Haskell, Willcox 384-2857

FARMERS INSURANCE GROUP
136 S. Haskell, Willcox 384-3841

JENSEN INSURANCE AGENCIES
132 W. Maley, Willcox 384-2296

STATE FARM INSURANCE-JIM REED
171 S. Haskell, Willcox 384-4036

HAZEL B. JOHNSON
WILLCOX INSURANSE AGENCY
130 N. Haskell, Willcox 384-2581

IRRIGATION SUPPLIES

BOWEN AG SALES
Hwy 186, Willcox 384-3575

FARMER'S PUMP CO.
800 E. Maley, Willcox 384-2245

RENNER IRRIGATION SUPPLY
700 E. Maley, Willcox 384-4209

JANITORIAL SERVICE

AMERICLEAN HOME SERVICE
136 S. Haskell, Willcox 384-3331

L-P GAS SERVICE

CAL GAS, WILLCOX
516 S. Railroad Ave., Willcox 384-2292

LAUNDROMATS

TOWN AND COUNTRY TRAILER PARK AND LAUNDROMAT
501 S. Arizona Ave., Willcox 384-4119

PLAZA SPEED WASH LAUNDROMAT
257A West Maley, Willcox 384-9983

LIVESTOCK

NELSON LIVESTOCK
N. Haskell Ave., Willcox 384-2206

WARBONNET HEREFORDS, INC.
P.O. Box 308, Willcox 384-3153

LIVESTOCK FEED

MOOREMAN'S FEEDS
Leroy Unrast
Kansas Settlement Road, Willcox 384-3030

ARIZONA FEEDS COUNTRY STORE
E. Hwy 86, Willcox 384-2800

MACRAME

SANDY'S HANG UPS
Old Fort Grant Road, Willcox 384-3278

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Bob and Betty Elson 10 S. Arizona Ave.

GORDON'S MARKET
Rex Allen Drive, Willcox 384-2502

REY'S MARKET
612 W. Delos, Willcox 384-2172

RICHLAND MARKET NO. 1 AND 2
Cochise Richland Ranchettes 826-3514

WILLCOX MARKET
207 W. Maley, Willcox 384-2161

MOTELS

DESERT BREEZE MOTEL
556 N. Haskell Ave., Willcox 384-2312

Motels (continued)

SUE'S HACIENDA MOTEL
624 S. Haskell, Willcox 384-2164

HOME ON THE RANGE MOTEL
P.O. 216, Bowie, Az. 847-2238

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340 S. Haskell, Willcox 384-2237

SANDS MOTEL
400 S. Haskell, Willcox 384-3501

SUNIZONA MOTEL & CAFE
Junction 666 & 181 824-3561

SUN VALLEY MOTEL
North Haskell, Willcox 384-2335

WILLCOX MOTEL
142 N. Haskell, Willcox 384-2011

WILLCOX TRAVELODGE
590 S. Haskell, Willcox 384-2266

MOTORS

AMPERE ELECTRIC CO. - Eugene Lauve
Across from "Old Pearce Store"
Pearce 826-3631

NATURAL GAS

ARIZONA PUBLIC SERVICE CO.
401 E. Maley, Willcox 384-3505

NEWSPAPERS

ARIZONA RANGE NEWS
122 S. Haskell, Willcox 384-3571

TUCSON NEWSPAPERS
Nan Schemlzer
P.O. Box 657, Willcox 384-2734

NURSERY

WHITE-WAY NURSERY
Corner Curtis & Stewart, Willcox 384-3366

OFFICE SUPPLIES

ARIZONA RANGE NEWS
122 S. Haskell, Willcox 384-3571

OILS & LUBRICATING

UNION OIL PRODUCTS
Fred Schmelzla
200 N. Haskell, Willcox 384-3036

PACKING HOUSE

WILLCOX PACKING HOUSE
Ft. Grand Road, Willcox 384-2015

PIPE - WHOLESALE & RETAIL

WILLCOX PIPE & STEEL
East Maley, Willcox 384-2693

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FARMERS PUMP CO., INC.
E. Maley, Willcox 384-2201

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R.R. 1, Cochise 826-3334

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136 S. Haskell, Willcox 384-4207

FOWLER'S FARM & RANCH REALTY
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JENSEN REAL ESTATE
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135 N. Haskell, Willcox 384-2214

SUNSITES REAL ESTATE
P.O. Box 111, Pearce 826-3303

WARD REALTY
125. N. Haskell, Willcox 384-2744

WILLCOX REALTY
220 S. Curtis, Willcox 384-2279

WOODS REALTY
247 Frontage Road, Sunsites 826-3464

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570 S. Haskell, Willcox 384-2277

COUNTRY KITCHEN
706 S. Haskell, Willcox 384-2331

EL TACO DRIVE-THRU
651 N. Bisbee, Willcox 384-9942

MICKEY'S RESTAURANT & LOUNGE
400 S. Haskell, Willcox 384-3501

Restaurants (cont.)

WALKER PLAZA TASTEE FREEZ
I-10 & Ft. Grant Int., Willcox 384-2875

WILLCOX PLAZA RESTAURANT
1190 W. Rex Allen Drive, Willcox

SERVICE STATIONS

FREEWAY MOBIL
Fort Grant Road and I-10, Willcox 384-9955

MICK'S CHEVRON
102 N. Haskell, Willcox 384-2643

WALKER DEVELOPMENT - TEXACO PRODUCTS
380 N. RR Ave., Willcox 384-2188

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1190 W. Rex Allen Drive, Willcox 384-3561

SEWING SUPPLIES - FABRICS

STITCH-A-BIT
Dunlap Plaza, Willcox 384-2788

SHOP & SWAP

NOLAN'S SHOP AND SWAP
158 W. Maley, Willcox 384-2820

TELEPHONE SERVICE

MOUNTAIN BELL
181 S. Curtis, Willcox 384-2225

VALLEY TELEPHONE CO-OP
752 E. Maley, Willcox 384-2231

TV AND RADIO DEALERS

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365 North Haskell, Willcox 384-2857

WELL DRILLING

KIMBELL WELL SERVICE
Hamilton Road, Willcox 384-2536

WESTERN WEAR

McCOY'S COWBOY CORNER
100 E. Maley, Willcox 384-2805

Arizona Sunsites, Cochise County
U.S. 666 between Willcox and Douglas.

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Cochise County Realty

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One good investment can be worth a lifetime of labor.

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